

3/14/55

Miss Kell telephoned the following:

John Murray, Earl of Dunmore,
appointed in July, 1771. Went
into office August, 1771. Served
as Governor until he fled from
the seat of government in June,
1775.

*Formerly was Governor
of New York.*

From the desk of

ERIC P. NEWMAN

MERCHANTS OF LONDON AND VIRGINIA

Dates of them, but presume they were not come to Hand, when you wrote to My Wife, as you make no Mention of either of them.

Permitt Me Sir to wish You and Mrs. Norton Health, and Happiness, attended with all the Blessings a Married life is capable of, and believe me to be—

Dear Sir

Your Ever Well Wisher

Putney Feby. 15th 1773.

Michael Turner

To Mr. Hatley Norton

ENDORSED:

London 15th Feby 1773 / Michael Turner / Recd June 1773 / Answ'd.

To

[Messrs. John Norton & Son, London]

Williamsburg 17th March 1773

Dear Sirs,

In my last I informed you of the misfortune this Country had met with, in having its two last Emissions of Paper Money so ingeniously counterfeited, that the most knowing have been imposed upon. These Notes were impressed upon the Paper you some years ago sent to Dr Walker for his own private use & were guarded with such a Variety of Checks that I flattered myself with hopes of the most perfect Security. Some Individuals will sustain Losses; but having discovered the authors of this Mischief several of whom are now in Jail I'm in hopes such Practices will be put a Stop to. Our Assembly has been called and they have authorized me to borrow a sufficient Sum in Specie to take in and destroy both these Emissions the Balance of which now in Circulation amounts to £36,800 but where to get the Money I do not know; if it cou'd be borrowed in England or a part of it I cou'd make Bills of Exchange answer my Purpose pretty well; the Interest to be allowed is 5 *pr ct.* Can any of your Friends assist me in this Difficulty? The Funds appropriated are unquestionable and if by any *accident* they should prove deficient the Assembly has engaged to make up any Deficiency. In Case I should not be able to borrow, I am authorized to emit other Treasury Notes to take in such as are not redeemable 'till a future Day, and

JOHN NORTON & SONS

these new Notes are to be redeemed at the Time appointed for the Redemption of those to be taken in. The late Colo. Thomas Tabb whom you knew and some other principal Merchts on James River a few Years ago intended to have established a private Bank and had some Paper made in London to circulate their Notes; on this Paper is of an exquisite fine Texture is impressed with the best copper Plate I ever saw and has several very ingenious Devices wrought upon it so that I shou'd hope it wou'd baffle the attempts of the most crafty and ingenious to counterfeit it. The Notes now to be emitted are to circulate but a little more than a twelve months; if in the mean Time I can borrow the Money I am directed to take them in otherwise I am to issue other Notes redeemable at the Time fixed for the redemption of those immediately to be called in. It is judged here that the shortness of the Time will be an exceeding good Security and I am directed to import from London some of the *very best* Paper that can be procured for the future Emission. To effect this I must beg the favour of your Assistance. It is wished that we cou'd have some such Paper as is used at the Bank made on Purpose. Mr. James Ingram of Norfolk & the Revd Mr. Henley have recommended each a Sample which I inclose you, the former I own I should prefer; the words in yellow and the Chain around the Edges are proposed to be wrought in the Paper itself; the words in black Letters to be done with the most exquisite Copper Plate; the Virginia Arms to be in the Form of a Seal; the Scroll or Cypher with the word Virginia to be likewise done in Copper Plate the Bill to be of the same size but as the Paper itself is to be bound in Books of about 50 or 100 Sheets there should I think be a greater length allowed for binding at the end where the Number stands. The Numbers are to be wrought in the Paper itself, the upper denoting the Volume from whence the Bill is taken & the lower the Series of the Bill. Mr Henley's Sketch I think very ingenious but if either of them is adopted I shou'd think the words "Five Pounds" had better be omitted as we may have occasion for Bills of various Denominations, the word Pound may be used so as to stand in the Singular or by adding "s" to be turned into the plural Number, the Time of passing the Act and the Signers Names to be blank, to be filled up with a Pen. I do not mean by sending these Samples to restrain you

MERCHANTS OF LONDON AND VIRGINIA

to one of the other of them but rather wish you to consult the most skilful men in London and that you would be guided by them. I need not tell you that in a Case of this sort they should be Gentlemen of unquestionable Characters and such as cannot be imposed upon, by Journeymen Apprentices &c. Mr Ingram has recommended to me Mr John Ingram, his Brother in London, who I am told furnishes the Banks in Scotland with the Paper made use of there. I have desired Mr Jas Ingram to write to his Brother on the Subject and he will probably apply to you. About twenty thousand Sheets will be enough for our Purpose and the sooner they can be had the better. I should think it advisable to have the original Press, with which the Paper is to be made, sent over with it not that I shall entertain any doubt of the Integrity of the Person you may think fit to employ but for the Satisfaction of the Public. I am told that a late Emission at New York has been forged; its a thousand Pitties that some happy expedient could not be fallen upon a guard this sort of Money from Counterfeits. I am sure a moderate quantity of it would be extremely useful in transacting the Business of this Country, provided proper Funds are established to redeem it in a reasonable Time; the Funds appropriated to the Redemption of the Emissions proposed to be called in are more than ample. I am morally certain that they will exceed at least £10,000 as these are mortgaged by our own last Act to redeem the new Money to be emitted and moreover the Assembly as I said have bound themselves by an express Clause in the Act to make good every difficiency if any should happen. As to myself I can say with great Truth that I shou'd never desire to see any Paper Money if we could possibly do without it. The Step lately taken by our Assembly was absolutely necessary as there is almost a total Stop put to the Circulation of Money. Indeed our Gold & Silver is not free from Counterfeits, I have too much Reason to fear there is a good deal of each in the Circle.

I shou'd be much pleased to have your own and the Sentiments of some of your most judicious Friends at large upon these very interesting Subjects. Besides the natural affection I bear to my native Country I am so much impressed with the warmest feelings of Gratitude for the large share of Confidence place in me by my Countrymen,

JOHN NORTON & SONS

that I shall ever take the greatest Pleasure in rendering them every
essential and acceptable Service

I am, with the sincerest Esteem

Dr Sirs

Yr Affect: Humble Servt

Ro. C. Nicholas

P. S. Your J.H.N. is very well; I
desired him when writing the
other Day to ask the favr of you
to send me 100 yds. dble
mill'd blue plains

ENDORSED:

Virga 17th March 1773 / R. C. Nicholas / Rec'd the 5 May / Ansd 29
May / pr Robertson.

*To

Mr. John Hatley Norton
[Virginia]

London the 20th March 1773

Dear Hatley

My last was dated 30th Jany. pr Capt. Livingston also a private
one datd 16 Feby. pr Mr. Gibson passenger in McNabb, to both
which refer, your sevl Letters of 13th, 15th and 17th Nov., 3rd 17th
and 26th Decr. are rec'd, the contents of which shall be duly ob-
serv'd, you say you have dispos'd of the Goods intended for Mr.
Thropp to one Underwood at 12 Mo. Credit from the time they are
sold, which perhaps may be as soon as he can engage payment, but
this shews it cannot answer with our engagemt. here to purchase
Goods to pay in 12 Mo. & therefore the Cargo Trade must in future
be greatly lopp'd off, if not totally at an end. Mr. Thropp has left
this place and gone to Bristol, from whence he embarks for Virga
carries goods with him from thence, & is to have a large parcell I
understand from Liverpool, you seem to have conceiv'd a bad opinion
of the Man since he left Virga and you may have reason for it, but I
confess his behaviour here has not given me any suspicion but that he

*From the original in the Valentine Museum, Richmond, Va.

MERCHANTS OF LONDON AND VIRGINIA

[To Mr. John Norton, London]

Williamsburg 7th Apl. 1772

Dear Sirs.

Our Countrymen having at last open'd their Eyes to the natural Advantages, with which Virginia is bless'd, begin to entertain very serious thoughts of extending our Navigation, by opening the Falls of James & Potowmack River. The Bearer, Mr. John Ballendine, is reckon'd a great Genius for Undertakings of this Sort, & goes to England to view the different Canals &c, many of his Friends have subscribed to defray his Expences, & I have given him a Bill on you for £ 10 St.g payable at Sight, as he may have immediate Occasion for the Money. Your J. H. N. is here with us extremely well; I make no Doubt but you will have heard of his Marriage, & shall leave it to him to give you an Acct. of his Situation. I can only say that I shall consider his Happiness as intimately connected with my own. My best Regards always attend you, your Lady & the rest of the Family & I am very truly, Dr. Sirs,

Yr. affte. hble Servt.

Ro. C. Nicholas

ENDORSED:

Virga. the 7th April 1772 / R. C. Nicholas / Recd. 27th Janry 1773 / pr.
Mr. Ballendine / Ans. the 15 March / pr. H. Esten.

[To Mr. John Norton, London]

Virga. 9th Apl. 1772

Dear Sirs.

I wrote to you the other Day advising that our Assembly had adopted the Measures, which you had been pleased to recommend, respecting the Copper Money & desired that you would procure £ 1000 St.g worth of Copper halfpence of the Currency of Virginia which are proposed to run 60 to the pound Averdupoise, & send them over properly insured by the first Opportunity. I am so much hurried at present, that I have barely time to repeat this Request & inclose Mr. Barraud's Bill on Philip Barraud for £ 100 St.g, which

JOHN NORTON & SONS

which you were a witness to & I leave it to your Discretion, after consulting with such of your Friends, as you think fit, to dispose of what I have written in such manner as you may judge most likely to efface those Prejudices, that may have been imbibed. I am glad to hear the Copper Money is in so good a Way, as many are anxious to have it circulating amongst us. With my constant & best Wishes for you & all Yrs. I am,

Dr. Sirs,

Yr. affte. hble. Servt.

Ro. C. Nicholas

You'll observe from the Sample of Paper sent that it was peculiarly adopted to the James River Bank; I have thrown all the superfluous Words into Parenthesis, as a Mark that they are not to be read, tho they may stand as so many checks in the Bill.

ENDORSED:

Virga. 30 July 1773 / Robt. C. Nicholas / Recd. 16 Sept. / Goods Entd.
pa: 261 / Ansd. the / pr Esten.

[To Mr John Hatley Norton, Virginia]

London 31st July 1773

Dear Hatley,

My last was dated 24 Instant pr Capt. Barron Passenger in the *Prince George* Capt. Bozeman, by whom furnished you with Duplicate of the letter I wrote you per Capt. H. Esten dated 20 March with Copies of your Invoice, another for a Parcell of Linnens sent you on the Partnership account which I was obliged to take in Barter for rotten tobacco sold Langkopf & Co. also copies of Col. Savages & Mr. James Cockes letters, Invoices, Shop Notes &c. in case the original should not be found, tho' I should hope they are before this, at any rate the Captain must have been very careless in the Matter. The Day before Yesterday we had another Stoppage in our Trade, namely Messrs. Frank & Pickerton, which I am much concern'd for, having a great Regard for them, however at a Meeting of the principal Creditors held Yesterday, they were so sensible of the Integrity of the Men, & that when their Debts were collected there would a

Virginia Gazette Feb 24, 1774
Alex Purdie & John Dixon

The Virginia, Howard Esten, from London, with
fine Tons of Halfpence on Board is arrived
in York River.

The Virginia was owned by John Norton & Sons
It arrived Feb 14, 1774 per ships register

MERCHANTS OF LONDON AND VIRGINIA

Dates of them, but presume they were not come to Hand when you wrote to My Wife, as you make no Mention of either of them.

Permitt Me Sir to wish You and Mrs. Norton Health, and Happiness, attended with all the Blessings a Married life is capable of, and believe me to be—

Dear Sir

Your Ever Well Wisher

Putney Feby. 15th 1773.

Michael Turner

To Mr. Hatley Norton

ENDORSED:

London 15th Feby 1773 / Michael Turner / Recd 10th 1773 / A/MS/101

To

[Messrs. John Norton & Son, London]

Williamsburg 17th March 1773

Dear Sirs,

In my last I informed you of the misfortune this Country had met with, in having its two last Emissions of Paper Money so ingeniously counterfeited, that the most knowing have been imposed upon. These Notes were impressed upon the Paper you some years ago sent to Dr Walker for his own private use & were guarded with such a Variety of Checks that I flattered myself with hopes of the most perfect Security. Some Individuals will sustain Losses; but having discovered the authors of this Mischief several of whom are now in Jail I'm in hopes such Practices will be put a Stop to. Our Assembly has been called and they have authorized me to borrow a sufficient Sum in Specie to take in and destroy both these Emissions the Balance of which now in Circulation amounts to £36,800 but where to get the Money I do not know; if it cou'd be borrowed in England or a part of it I cou'd make Bills of Exchange answer my Purpose pretty well; the Interest to be allowed is 5 *pr ct*. Can any of your Friends assist me in this Difficulty? The Funds appropriated are unquestionable and if by any *accident* they should prove deficient the Assembly has engaged to make up any Deficiency. In Case I should not be able to borrow, I am authorized to emit other Treasury Notes to take in such as are not redeemable 'till a future Day, and

these new Notes are to be redeemed at the Time appointed for the Redemption of those to be taken in. The late Colo. Thomas Tabb whom you knew and some other principal Merchts on James River a few Years ago intended to have established a private Bank and had some Paper made in London to circulate their Notes; on this Paper is of an exquisite fine Texture is impressed with the best copper Plate I ever saw and has several very ingenious Devices wrought upon it so that I shou'd hope it wou'd baffle the attempts of the most crafty and ingenious to counterfeit it. The Notes now to be emitted are to circulate but a little more than a twelve months; if in the mean Time I can borrow the Money I am directed to take them in otherwise I am to issue other Notes redeemable at the Time fixed for the redemption of those immediately to be called in. It is judged here that the shortness of the Time will be an exceeding good Security and I am directed to import from London some of the *very best* Paper that can be procured for the future Emission. To effect this I must beg the favour of your Assistance. It is wished that we cou'd have some such Paper as is used at the Bank made on Purpose. Mr. James Ingram of Norfolk & the ~~P~~^{rev} Mr. Henley have recommended each a Sample which I inclose you, the former I own I should prefer; the words in yellow and the Chain around the Edges are proposed to be wrought in the Paper itself; the words in black Letters to be done with the most exquisite Copper Plate; the Virginia Arms to be in the Form of a Seal; the Scroll or Cypher with the word Virginia to be likewise done in Copper Plate the Bill to be of the same size but as the Paper itself is to be bound in Books of about 50 or 100 Sheets ~~there should~~ I think be a greater length allowed for binding at the end where the Number stands. The Numbers are to be wrought in the Paper itself, the upper denoting the Volume from whence the Bill is taken & the lower the Series of the Bill. Mr Henley's Sketch I think very ingenious but if either of them is adopted I shou'd think the words "Five Pounds" had better be omitted as we may have occasion for Bills of various Denominations, the word Pound may be used so as to stand in the Singular or by adding "s" to be turned into the plural Number, the Time of passing the Act and the Signers Names to be blank, to be filled up with a Pen. I do not mean by sending these Samples to restrain you

MERCHANTS OF LONDON AND VIRGINIA

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I shou'd be much pleased to have your own and the Sentiments of some of your most judicious Friends at large upon these very interesting Subjects. Besides the natural affection I bear to my native Country I am so much impressed with the warmest feelings of Gratitude for the large share of Confidence place in me by my Countrymen,

JOHN NORTON & SONS

that I shall ever take the greatest Pleasure in rendering them every
essential and acceptable Service

I am, with the sincerest Esteem

Dr Sirs

Yr Affect: Humble Servt

Ro. C. Nicholas

P. S. Your J.H.N. is very well; I
desired him when writing the
other Day to ask the favr of you
to send me 100 yds. dble
mill'd blue plains

ENDORSED:

Virga 17th March 1773 / R. C. Nicholas / Rec'd the 5 May / Ansd 29
May / pr Robertson.

*To

Mr. John Hatley Norton
[Virginia]

London the 20th March 1773

Dear Hatley

My last was dated 30th Jany. pr Capt. Livingston also a private
one datd 16 Feby. pr Mr. Gibson passenger in McNabb, to both
which refer, your sevl Letters of 13th, 15th and 17th Nov., 3rd 17th
and 26th Decr. are rec'd, the contents of which shall be duly ob-
serv'd, you say you have dispos'd of the Goods intended for Mr.
Thropp to one Underwood at 12 Mo. Credit from the time they are
sold, which perhaps may be as soon as he can engage payment, but
this shews it cannot answer with our engagemt. here to purchase
Goods to pay in 12 Mo. & therefore the Cargo Trade must in future
be greatly lopp'd off, if not totally at an end. Mr. Thropp has left
this place and gone to Bristol, from whence he embarks for Virga
carries goods with him from thence, & is to have a large parcell I
understand from Liverpool, you seem to have conceiv'd a bad opinion
of the Man since he left Virga and you may have reason for it, but I
confess his behaviour here has not given me any suspicion but that he

*From the original in the Valentine Museum, Richmond, Va.

COINAGE FOR COLONIAL VIRGINIA

Changes to the page proofs.

Should the word "PLAYES" be added after the index in the Table of Contents?

On page 2, the period at the end of footnote 5 should become a semicolon and there shall be added at the end, the following:

Richard I. Boober, Financial History of Colonial Virginia, ital The Statistist, Vol. 66 (1953), p. 1130; Henry Phillips, ital Jr., Historical Sketches of the Paper Currency of the American Colonies, (Boxbury, 1865), pp. 191f.

Pages 3 and 4 shall be changed in accordance with the enclosed revision and pagination adjusted.

On page 5, the heading at the top of the page should have the word "Early" added at the front.

Page 9, line 27, add the words "was weak" after the word "Virginia" and eliminate the word "some".

On page 13 some of the lettering on the left side has fallen slightly out of place at the beginning of the second paragraph.

On page 20, line 28, add an "s" to the word "Son" to make it "Sons".

On page 20, line 31, insert an "A" in place of "and".

On page 27, the heading should be "Conditions Preventing Normal Circulation" instead of the heading which has been used.

On page 35, in the first line of footnote 64, a small "t" from "Connecticut" has been pushed out of place.

On page 36, line 13, put a period after and end the sentence at the word "halfpence". Start the next sentence with "It is" in place of "but".

On page 36, in the footnote, please italicize "The Coins and Tokens of the Possessions and Colonies of the British Empire."

On page 39, substitute the number "20" for the "*" unless the pagination is changed.

On page 41, Obv. No. 7 has the figure "7" one space too far to the right.

On page 42, the reading just before Obv. No. 20 should have a period after the word "GEORGIVS" (thus: GEORGIVS.). This period should be centered between the base line and top line of the letters.

EARLY ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN COPPER COINAGE

To section read the Virginia charter of April 10, 1606, the colonists were authorized to "establish and cause to be made a coin to pass current thro' Virginia between the people of those several colonies in Virginia, for the more ease of traffick and bargaining between and amongst them and the natives thereof of such metal and in such manner and form as the said several companies there shall limit and appoint." No use of this power was ever made. In 1718, Henry Lord Maltravers was granted the right for 21 years to stamp farthing tokens in copper to use on the plantations in Virginia, New England and Barbadoes. No coin seems to have been struck.

The introduction of royal farthing tokens in Virginia was recommended by Sir John Harvey, Governor of Virginia, in a letter dated June 26, 1636, to Secretary Sir Francis Windebank, so that there would be a means of paying labor during the period before the tobacco crop was picked. In due course Charles I proposed to the Virginia Assembly that the royal farthing tokens which were currently in circulation in England should pass in Virginia and that Henry Howard, Lord Maltravers, who owned a patent granted by the Crown to make and sell royal farthing tokens in England, should furnish such tokens in exchange for products of Virginia which were salable in England. The few existing records of the 1637-8 Assembly of Virginia show that the Colonists felt that "said farthings are very much under the value of them in copper", that they would be readily counterfeited and that tradesmen and others would be disheartened to accept coin which was not "somewhat neere the value" of its metal content. Actually the intrinsic value of royal farthing tokens was only 5% of their circulating value in England and counterfeiting them there was a common practice. Instead, the Virginia Assembly requested £5000 per year in an issue of silver coin which would allow 10% profit to those who furnished it. The Crown, nevertheless, in 1638, granted a license to Lord Maltravers to coin farthing tokens for the foreign plantations and on February 16, 1639 granted a license to export English, Irish and Welsh farthing tokens to all plantations except Maryland. No farthing tokens for America were coined and there is no evidence that royal farthing tokens circulating in the British Isles were sent to America.

Although the value of interest gold and silver coin as money in commercial transactions was regulated by law, by decree or by the merchants' custom, no coins were actually minted and circulated in Virginia until the first minting in 1773. Virginia's indifference to the minting of money is part of the eighteenth century. British money indifference and England had been growing weary of the silver coins of the world by the eighteenth century. American money indifference was not the case. Virginia approached the minting of money with approval, but money indifference was not the case. Virginia's indifference to the minting of money was not the case.

- italics* 6. Journals of the House of Burgesses of Virginia, 1619-1658/9, edited by H. R. McIlwaine (Richmond, Virginia, 1915), pp. 57f; Calendar of State Papers, Colonial Series, 1574-1660, edited by W. Noel Sainsbury, (London, 1816), pp. 238, 266, 285, 290; *italics* Thomas Snelling, A View of the Copper Coin and Coinage of England, (London, 1766), p. 9.
7. Two specimens are known of a brass shilling token privately issued in 1714 by someone named Dawson in Gloucester County, Virginia. It is described as a *pattern* and illustrated in Sylvester S. Crosby, Early Coins of America, page 323 and Plate IX, No. 4. *italics* Although not fully readable, it has been tentatively attributed to Ric(hard) Dawson, whose existence has not been confirmed. It may be that the token was issued by a partnership having a name such as Richeson & Dawson, since the names, Peter Richeson and Samuel Dawson, appear separately in Gloucester County records of the period. In the writer's opinion this coin is brass token money rather than a pattern to be struck in silver.

FOOTNOTES

- (1) Sylvester S. Crosby, The Early Coins of America, Boston, 1875 p. 76 et seq; Sir John Craig, The Mint, Cambridge, England, 1953, p. 377.
- (2) Sir John Craig, The Mint, p. 376. American Journal of Numismatics, 1886, Vol. XX, p. 56.
- (3) Eric P. Newman, The First Documentary Evidence of the American Colonial Pewter 1/24th Real, The Numismatist, July, 1955, Vol. LXVIII, p. 713.
- (4) Charles T. Tatman, The Virginia Coinage, Plain Talk, New York, 1892; Reprinted in Worcester, Mass., 1894; The Numismatist, 1911, Vol. XXIV, p. 233.
- (5) William Z. Ripley, The Financial History of Virginia, 1609-1776, Columbia University Studies in Historical and Political Science, Vol. IV, No. 1, New York, 1893; Paper Money in Colonial Virginia, William and Mary Quarterly, Vol. XX, pp. 227-262.
- (6) Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, 1903, Vol. XI, p. 49.
- (7) Sylvester S. Crosby, The Early Coins of America, p. 21; Statutes at Large of Virginia, compiled by W. W. Hening, 1819-23, Vol. I, p. 308.

- (8) The Official Records of Robert Dinwiddie, Collections of the Virginia Historical Society, New Series, Vol. IV, p. 341, Richmond, 1884.
- (9) No fully readable specimen of ^{or} ~~our~~ information concerning the 1714 brass pattern for a private shilling token attributed to Richard Dawson, Gloucester County, Virginia seems to be known. See Sylvester S. Crosby, Early Coins of America, p. 323 and Plate IX, No. 4.
- (10) Statutes at Large of Virginia, edited by W. W. Hening, Richmond, 1819-23, Vol. III, p. 503, 9th Anne, Chap. X, 1710.
- (11) Statutes at Large of Virginia, Vol. IV, p. 218, 1st George II, Chap. IX, 1727.
- (12) Statutes at Large of Virginia, Vol. VIII, p. 342, 10th George III, Chap. XII, 1769.
- (13) John Norton & Sons, Merchants of London and Virginia, edited by Frances Norton Mason, Richmond, Virginia, 1937, p. 115; Manuscript in the Archives of Colonial Williamsburg, Inc.
- (14) Statutes at Large of Virginia, Vol. VI, p. 467, 28th George II, Chap. II.
- (15) Jamieson Papers, Library of Congress, Vol. XVII, p. 4011.
- (16) J. Wright, The American Negotiator or the Various Currencies of the British Colonies in America, London, 1761 and subsequent editions, p. vi; Gaine's Universal Register, New York, 1775, p. 148.
- (17) Statutes at Large of Virginia, Vol. V, p. 540, 22nd George II, Chap. XII, 1748; Vol. VI, p. 97, 22nd George II, Chap. XXXVI, 1748.

- (18) Statutes at Large of Virginia, Vol. VI, p. ⁴⁷⁸~~473~~,
28th George II, Chap. VII, 1755.
- (19) Letter dated November 5, 1769 from James Balfour
to John Norton; John Norton & Sons, Merchants
of London and Virginia, p. 110.
- (20) News from London published in Virginia Gazette
of April 19, 1770.
- (21) Journals of the House of Burgesses of Virginia,
edited by John Pendleton Kennedy, (Richmond,
Virginia, 1906), 1770-1772, p. 17~~1~~.
- (22) Sir John Craig, The Mint, p. 220.
- (23) English Public Records Office, London,
C. O. 5-1349, p. 87-9.
- (24) English Public Records Office, London,
C. O. 5-1349, p. 197-9.
- (25) See: Guide to the Manuscript Collections of
Colonial Williamsburg, compiled by Lynette
Adcock, Williamsburg, Virginia, 1954, p. 23.
- (26) Virginia Gazette of January 26, 1772. John
Hatley Norton subsequently signed the 5,
7/6, 10, 12/6 and 20 shilling notes of the
Virginia paper money issued pursuant to Act
of Convention passed July 17, 1775, and the
2/6 bills under the Act of July 1, 1776.

- (27) Letter dated April 6, 1772; John Norton & Sons, Merchants of London and Virginia, p. 230.

- (28) English Public Records Office, London, C. O. 5-1349, p. 351-4.

- (29) Journals of the House of Burgesses of Virginia, edited by John Pendleton Kennedy, Richmond, Virginia, 1906, 1770-1772, p. 281.

- (30) English Public Records Office, London, C. O. 5-1350, p. 85.

- (31) Statutes at Large of Virginia, Vol. VIII, p. 534-6, 12th George III, Chap. XVII, 1772.

- (32) John Norton & Sons, Merchants of London and Virginia, p. 244-5.

- (33) Letter of September 19, 1772; John Norton & Sons, Merchants of London and Virginia, p. 272.

- (34) John Norton & Sons, Merchants of London and Virginia, p. 265.

- (35) English Royal Mint Record Books, London, No. 12, p. 201.

- (36) John Norton & Sons, Merchants of London and Virginia, p. 314.

- (37) English Public Records Office, London, Tome 52-62, p. 379-81.
- (38) Only $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ deviation was permitted in the coinage of English copper coin. See: Sir John Craig, The Mint, p. 250.
- (39) Sir John Craig, The Mint, p. 428.
- (40) John Norton & Sons, Merchants of London and Virginia, p. 326.
- (41) Id., p. 332.
- (42) Id., p. 344.
- (43) Id., p. 352.
- (44) Peter Force, American Archives, Washington, D.C., 1837, 4th Series, Vol. I, p. 982; The Numismatist, August, 1938, Vol. LI, p. 695.
- (45) In an open letter dated July 20, 1773 to the editors of the Virginia Gazette Nicholas gives a resume of finances, paper currency and exchange fluctuation during his term of office. See: Virginia Gazette of July 29, 1773 (R & PD).
- (46) Virginia Gazette of January 28, 1773 (PD).

- (47) Statutes at Large of Virginia, Vol. VIII, p. 647, 13th George III, Chap. I. See: Virginia Gazette of March 11, 1773 (R).
- (48) Letter dated March 17, 1773 from Nicholas to Norton. See: John Norton & Sons, Merchants of London and Virginia, p. 305.
- (49) This procedure is explained in a postscript to a letter written by Nicholas to Norton dated July 30, 1773. See: John Norton & Sons, Merchants of London and Virginia, p. 342.
- (50) John Norton & Sons, Merchants of London and Virginia, pp. 305, 326 and 349.
- (51) Virginia Gazette of February 4, 1773 (PD/R).
- (52) Virginia Gazette of April 14, 1774 (PD).
- (53) Journals of the Continental Congress, November 3, 1775, Vol. III, p. 319.
- (54) ~~Notes on Coinage~~ *Thomas Jefferson, Notes on the establishment of a Money Unit and of a Coinage*, The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, edited by Julian P. Boyd, Princeton, New Jersey, 1953, Vol. 7, p. 178. It is to be noted that a distinction between the value of a copper and a penny caused a revision of this document.
- (55) Virginia Gazette of April 1, 1775 (DH).

- (56) Virginia Gazette of May 11, 1775 (Pi);
The Remembrancer or Impartial Depository of
Public Events for the Year MDCCLXXV,
J. Almon, London, 1775, p. 103.
- (57) Journal of the House of Delegates of the
Commonwealth of Virginia, October 1776 session,
Richmond, Virginia, 1828, p. 45, 46 and 65;
See also: Papers of Thomas Jefferson, edited
by Julian P. Boyd, 1950, Vol. 1, p. 597.
- (58) Thomas Jefferson, Notes on the establishment
of a Money Unit and of a Coinage for the
United States; Papers of Thomas Jefferson,
~~1952~~ Vol. 7, p. 178.
- ~~(59) Notes on Coinage, The Papers of Thomas Jefferson,~~
~~(59) Id.,~~ Vol. 7, p. 185.
- (60) Walter H. Breen, Survey of American Coin Hoards,
The Numismatist, January, 1952, Vol. 65, p. 16.
- (61) Page 84.
- (62) Journals of the Continental Congress, February
20, 1777, Vol. VII, p. 136-8.
- (63) Manuscript, ^{in the library of} ~~belonging to~~ the American Philosophical
Society, Philadelphia, Vol. 16, Frame 118.
- (64) The Freeman's Journal (Philadelphia) of August 5,
1789; Connecticut Journal of July 28, 1789.

- (65) Specimens are in the collections of F.C.C.Boyd, Johns Hopkins University, Mrs. R. Henry Norweb and the writer. It is very doubtful whether a 1774 bronze proof exists as it is unknown except for reported hearsay in James Atkins, The Coins and Tokens of the Possessions and Colonies of the British Empire, 1889, p. 265.
- (66) William J. Hocking, Catalogue of the Coins, Tokens, Medals, Dies and Seals in the Museum of the Royal Mint, Vol. II, p. 119.
- (67) Sylvester S. Crosby, The Early Coins of America, p. 339.
- (68) A test to show whether copper coins were pure was worked out by Sir Isaac Newton. When heated red hot, copper coins could be beaten thin without cracking. The addition of tin made copper easy to roll, but also made hot copper brittle. This test was to prevent tin and other impurities from being added. This test was in use from 1700 until 1860 in England. See: Sir John Craig, The Mint, page 220.

O B V E R S E S

OBVERSES WITH NO PERIOD AFTER GEORGIUS

Obv. No.	6lths between periods	Special features	With Rev.
1	29	Last period much lower than center of letters	A
2	29½	O nearer E than R in GEORGIUS. Period much closer to I than R	E
3	30	Base of first I in III slightly low. Third I of III as close to R of REX as E is. E closer to X than R	F
4	30½	Top of second I of III nearer than top of first I than third I. Period slightly nearer I than R. E in REX nearer R than X	G P
5	31	Third I of III too low	E 2
6	31½	Second I of III farther from third I than from first I. Period nearer R than I. E in REX nearer X than R	X
7	31½	First I in III tilts left. Period after X higher than center and extremely close to X and to curl	D
8	30	O tilts right. First R is low. E is high and nearer R than X. Top of second I in III nearer top of first I than top of third I	D

OBVERSES WITH PERIOD AFTER GEORGIUS

10	29 31 50½	Space between tops of first and second I of III wide. Period after III nearer I than R	X N
11	30½ 31 50½	III perfectly spaced	N
12	31 31½ 51	E high in GEORGIUS O nearer E than R in GEORGIUS	S
13	32 28½ 49	Top of second I and third I in III distant. Period after III higher than center of lettering	Q R
14	32 30 51	Baseline of III rises uniformly to right. Period nearer I than R	K

O B V E R S E S

OBVERSES WITH NO PERIOD AFTER GEORGIVS

<u>Obv. No.</u>	<u>64ths between periods</u>	<u>Special features</u>	<u>With Rev.</u>
1	29	Last period much lower than center of letters	A
2	29½	O nearer E than R in GEORGIVS. Period much closer to I than R	E
3	30	Base of first I in III slightly low. Third I of III as close to R of REX as E is. E closer to X than R	F
4	30½	Top of second I of III nearer bottom top of first I than third I. Period slightly nearer I than R. E in REX nearer R than X	G P
5	31	Third I of III too low	G Z
6	31½	Second I of III farther from third I than from first I. Period nearer R than I. E in REX nearer X than R	A
7	31½	First I in III tilts left. Period after X higher than center and extremely close to X and to curl	D
8	30	O tilts right. First R is low. E is high and nearer R than X. Top of second I in III nearer top of first I than top of third I	O

OBVERSES WITH PERIOD AFTER GEORGIVS

10	29 31 50½	Space between tops of first and second I of III wide. Period after III nearer I than R	X N
11	30½ 31 50½	III perfectly spaced	N
12	31 31½ 51	E high in GEORGIVS O nearer E than R in GEORGIVS	S
13	32 28½ 49	Top of second I and third I in III distant. Period after III higher than center of lettering	Q R
14	32 30 51	Baseline of III rises uniformly to right. Period nearer I than R	K

15	33 28 50	Base of first G low. Top of first P and second I in III distant	M
16	35 28 51 $\frac{1}{2}$	Second I in III tilts left. Center punch mark shows near curls	Y
17	36 28 51 $\frac{1}{2}$	First G distant from E Base of first I in III slightly low	J

REVERSES

REVERSES WITH 6 STRING HARP

<u>Rev. Letter</u>	<u>Special Features</u>	<u>With Obv.</u>
A	Small 7's in date. Period after date as near V as 3. Leaf ends opposite midpoint between I and R. Leaf ends opposite center of left base of A. Third I slopes down to right relative to horizontal divider. Periods centered	1
B	4th, 5th and 6th strings from left side of harp double cut. G distant from R and I. Leaf ends opposite space to right of I. Leaf ends opposite left tip of right base of A. Third I parallel to horizontal divider. Period near top line of A. Period after 3 centered	5

REVERSES WITH 7 STRING HARP

D	V is low and touches leaf. E almost touches arms. Second 7 higher than 3. Leaf ends slightly right of center of I. Leaf ends opposite right tip of left base of A. Third I parallel to horizontal divider. Period after date near top line. Period after A higher than center.	7
E	V is low and close to leaf. Top of G curls up. Top of 7 higher than 3. Leaf ends opposite point between center and right side of upright of I. Leaf ends opposite center of narrow A. Third I parallel to horizontal divider. Both periods higher than center line.	2

15	33 28 50	Base of first G low. Top of first 6 and second I in III distant	M
16	35 28 51 ⁺	Second I in III tilts left. Center punch mark shows near curls	Y
17	30 28 51 ⁺	First G distant from E Base of first I in III slightly low	J

REVERSES

REVERSES WITH 6 STRING HARP

<u>Rev. Letter</u>	<u>Special Features</u>	<u>With Obv.</u>
A	Small 7's in date. Period after date as near V as 3. Leaf ends opposite midpoint between I and R. Leaf ends opposite center of left base of A. Third I slopes down to right relative to horizontal divider. Periods centered	1
B	4th, 5th and 6th strings from left side of harp double cut. G distant from R and I. Leaf ends opposite space to right of I. Leaf ends opposite left tip of right base of A. Third I parallel to horizontal divider. Period near top line of A. Period after 3 centered	5

REVERSES WITH 7 STRING HARP

D	7 is low and touches leaf. M almost touches arms. Second 7 higher than 3. Leaf ends slightly right of center of I. Leaf ends opposite right tip of left base of A. Third I parallel to horizontal divider. Period after date near top line. Period after A higher than center.	7
E	V is low and close to leaf. Top of G curls up. Top of 7 higher than 3. Leaf ends opposite point between center and right side of upright of I. Leaf ends opposite center of narrow A. Third I parallel to horizontal divider. Both periods higher than center line.	2

- F V touches leaf. N is low. Leaf ends opposite center of I. Leaf ends close to and opposite center of A. Third I parallel to horizontal divider. ~~Period near top of A.~~ Both periods higher than center line. 3
- G V is low. First I tilts right. G curls up at top. Leaf ends opposite center of I. Leaf ends opposite Center of A. Third I slopes down to right relative to horizontal divider. Both periods near top of line. 4
- J Right top of V higher at right end. Second I touches arms. A tilts to right and its right base is defective. Leaf ends opposite Center of I. Leaf ends opposite center of left base of A. Third I is parallel to horizontal divider. Periods centered 17
- K V touches and I is very close to arms. A is high. Leaf ends opposite center of I. Leaf ends opposite left tip of right base of A. Right side of third I parallel to horizontal divider. Period above center line of A. Period after 3 centered. 14
- M V is widely spaced. Second I close to arms. Leaf ends opposite left side of upright of I. Leaf ends opposite center of A. Third I parallel to horizontal divider. Periods centered 15
- N V is low. G is large and curls up at top. Second I touches arms. Leaf ends opposite left side of upright of I. Leaf ends opposite left tip of right base of A. Third I slopes slightly up to right relative to horizontal divider. Both periods slightly above center line. 10
11
- O V is low. Leaf ends opposite left side of upright of I. Leaf ends close to and opposite right side of left base of defective A. Third I parallel to horizontal divider. Periods higher than center. 8
- P V is low and touches leaf. G is too high and much nearer R than I. Second I shows double cutting. Leaf ends opposite left side of upright of I. Leaf ends opposite left tip of right base of A. Third I is parallel to horizontal divider. Period near top line of 3. Period after A centered 4
- Q V is low. Top of 3 higher than 7. Left base of A is high. Leaf ends opposite left tip of I. Leaf ends opposite center of A. Left side of third I slopes slightly down to right relative to horizontal divider. Periods centered 13

F	V touches leaf. N is low. Leaf ends opposite center of I. Leaf ends close to and opposite center of A. Third I parallel to horizontal divider. near top of A. Both periods higher than center line.	3
G	V is low. First I tilts right. G curls up at top. Leaf ends opposite center of I. Leaf ends opposite Center of A. Third I slopes down to right relative to horizontal divider. Both periods near top of line.	4
J	Right top of V higher at right end. Second I touches arms. A tilts to right and its right base is defective. Leaf ends opposite Center of I. Leaf ends opposite center of left base of A. Third I is parallel to horizontal divider. Periods centered	17
K	V touches and I is very close to arms. A is high. Leaf ends opposite center of I. Leaf ends opposite left tip of right base of A. Right side of third I parallel to horizontal divider. Period above center line of A. Period after 3 centered.	14
M	VIR widely spaced. Second I close to arms. Leaf ends opposite left side of upright of I. Leaf ends opposite center of A. Third I parallel to horizontal divider. Periods centered	15
N	V is low. G is large and curls up at top. Second I touches arms. Leaf ends opposite left side of upright of I. Leaf ends opposite left tip of right base of A. Third I slopes slightly up to right relative to horizontal divider. Both periods slightly above center line.	10 11
O	V is low. Leaf ends opposite left side of upright of I. Leaf ends close to and opposite right side of left base of defective A. Third I parallel to horizontal divider. Periods higher than center.	8
P	V is low and touches leaf. G is too high and much nearer R than I. Second I shows double cutting. Leaf ends opposite left side of upright of I. Leaf ends opposite left tip of right base of A. Third I is parallel to horizontal divider. Period near top line of 3. Period after A centered	4
Q	V is low. Top of 3 higher than 7. Left base of A is high. Leaf ends opposite left tip of I. Leaf ends opposite center of A. Left side of third I slopes slightly down to right relative to horizontal divider. Periods centered	13

R V is low and very close to arms. 13
 I touches arms. N is low. Leaf ends
 opposite left tip of I. Leaf close to
 and ends opposite right tip of left
 base of A. Third I parallel to hori-
 zontal divider. Period after 3
 centered. Period slightly above center
 line of A.

S V distant from first I. Second I close 12
 to arms. Leaf ends opposite left tip
 of I. Leaf ends opposite center of A.
 Third I slopes down to right relative
 to horizontal divider. Period at top
 line of 3. Period above center line of A

REVERSES WITH 8 STRING HARP

X V is low, tilts right and ^{4.}close to leaf. 6
 Second I touches arms. Leaf ends 10
 opposite left side of upright of I.
 Leaf close to and ends opposite center
 of narrow A. Third I slopes down to
 right relative to horizontal divider.
 Period higher than center line of 3.
 Period near top line of A

Y V is distant from first I. Second I 16
 almost touches arms. N is low and
 almost touches arms. Leaf ends opposite
 left side of upright of I. Leaf close
 to and ends opposite right tip of left
 base of A. Third I parallel to hori-
 zontal divider. Period after 3 centered.
 Period higher than center line of A.

Z V is low. First I tilts right. Leaf 5
 ends opposite right tip of I. Leaf
 ends close to and opposite center
 of narrow A. Third I slopes down to
 right relative to horizontal divider.
 Flat period above center line of 3.
 Flat period near top line of A

R V is low and very close to arms. 13
 I touches arms. A is low. Leaf ends
 opposite left tip of I. Leaf close to
 and ends opposite right tip of left
 base of A. Third I parallel to hori-
 zontal divider. Period after 3
 centered. Period slightly above center
 line of A.

S V distant from first I. Second I close 12
 to arms. Leaf ends opposite left tip
 of I. Leaf ends opposite center of A.
 Third I slopes down to right relative
 to horizontal divider. Period at top
 line of 3. Period above center line of A

REVERSES WITH 8 STRING WARP

X V is low, tilts right and ^{low}close to leaf. 6
 Second I touches arms. Leaf ends 10
 opposite left side of upright of I.
 Leaf close to and ends opposite center
 of narrow A. Third I slopes down to
 right relative to horizontal divider.
 Period higher than center line of 3.
 Period near top line of A

Y V is distant from first I. Second I 16
 almost touches arms. W is low and
 almost touches arms. Leaf ends opposite
 left side of upright of I. Leaf close
 to and ends opposite right tip of left
 base of A. Third I parallel to hori-
 zontal divider. Period after 3 centered.
 Period higher than center line of A.

Z V is low. First I tilts right. Leaf 5
 ends opposite right tip of I. Leaf
 ends close to and opposite center
 of narrow A. Third I slopes down to
 right relative to horizontal divider.
 Flat period above center line of 3.
 Flat period near top line of A

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG, INC.
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

INVOICE No. 04699

Eric P. Newman
c/o Wilson Brothers & Co. Inc.
200 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Mo.

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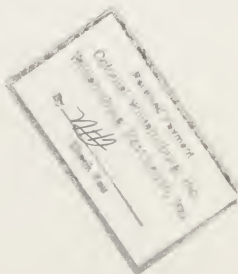
INVOICE DATE	YOUR ORDER NO	REFERENCE	ORDER DATE
March 10, 1955		J. P. 28	

Phakotak (Order #5758)

\$1.20

(Ordered for Miss Adcock - Research Dept.)

Check received	1.40
Amount of Invoice	<u>1.20</u>
Refund in Stamps	.20



COINAGE
FOR
COLONIAL VIRGINIA

Virginia halfpence of 1773 have the unique distinction of being the only fully authorized coinage having legal tender status and being specifically minted for any one or more of the thirteen English colonies which became the United States of America. Massachusetts Bay Colony authorized and established a mint for its own silver coinage in 1652 when political confusion as to colonial control existed in England but subsequently had years of controversy over the coinage because the action was taken and continued without the necessary approval of the English Crown. The Lord Baltimore coinage for Maryland although originally forced into circulation by a Maryland act passed April 12, 1662 was not made legal tender and after the Mint clerk had confiscated all dies and available coin Lord Baltimore was required to appear before the Council of State in England for having privately ordered the coinage without English permission. The Rosa Americana coinage of 1722 to 1724 was authorized by the Crown for American circulation, but legal tender status was specifically denied. All other coinages made for American colonial use prior to the American Revolution appear to be unofficial token money.

(1)

Curiously enough it was not until 1892⁽¹⁾ that it was pointed out that the Virginia halfpence had any authorization whatsoever, as Dickeson, Crosby, Dye and other numismatic writers had assumed it was token money.

- (1) Charles T. Tatman, The Virginia Coinage, published in the Magazine, Plain Talk, New York, 1892; reprinted by the author at Worcester, Mass. 1894 and in The Numismatist, 1911, Vol. XXIV, p.233.

In section 10 of the Virginia Charter of April 10, 1606 the patentees were authorized to "establish and cause to be made a coin, to pass current there (Virginia) between the people of those several colonies (in Virginia), for the more ease of traffick and bargaining between and amongst them and the natives there, of such metal, and in such manner and form, as the said several councils there shall limit and appoint." No use of this power was ever made. In 1638 Henry Lord Maltraver was granted the right for 21 years to stamp farthing tokens in copper to issue in the plantations in Virginia, New England⁽²⁾ and Bermuda, but no coin seems to have been struck. On November 20, 1645 the Colony passed a law to permit the coinage of copper in denominations of 2, 3, 6 and 9 pence to drive tobacco from circulating as a medium of small change, but no such coin was issued.

Although foreign silver coin was regulated by law and used in trade no copper coin of any kind circulated in Virginia prior to the distribution of 1773 Virginia halfpence.⁽³⁾ Other colonies were using English copper halfpence and farthings and Virginia from time to time sought the same privilege.

(2) Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, 1903, Vol. XI, p.49.

(3) The pewter coin bearing the title and equestrian figure of King James II of England and having the Spanish denomination of 1/24th real in order to circulate in the English plantations in America is not as yet connected by any evidence with Virginia.

No fully readable specimen of or information concerning the brass shilling pattern of 1714 attributed to Richard Dawson and to Virginia seems to be known.

An act passed by the Colony of Virginia in October 1710 provided that if her Majesty Queen Anne would permit English copper coin to be brought into Virginia it would circulate for the same amount as it does in Great Britain, but no one should be required to accept over 2 shillings 6 pence in copper in payments over 20 shillings or over one shilling as part of a lesser payment. ⁽⁴⁾ No copper was then being coined in England and the proposed circulation in Virginia of copper coin at par with English exchange would not give the mother country a sufficient economic motive to take money from her treasury for that purpose. This law requesting copper coin was reenacted by the Virginia assembly in 1727 when the administration of King George II ⁽⁵⁾ had come into power. Nothing resulted from either solicitation. A third legislative attempt was made in November 1769 when an act was passed in Virginia providing that subject to the consent of King George III the treasurer of the colony was authorized to purchase on behalf of the colony £2500 in English copper coin at its circulating value. The copper coin was to be paid out at the Virginia treasury at

(4) Statutes at Large of Virginia, W. W. Hening, 9th Anne, Chap. X.

(5) Statutes at Large of Virginia, W. W. Hening, 1st George II, Chap. IX.

British rates or exchanged for other coin. The copper was to be legal tender in Virginia up to the amounts previously designated. ⁽⁶⁾ At that time in exchange value the paper currency of Virginia issued in denominations of pounds and shillings was worth only 6 Virginia shillings to the Spanish dollar whereas English exchange (sterling) was worth about 4 shillings 8 pence to the Spanish dollar. ⁽⁷⁾ Since the value of Virginia currency therefore was almost 25% less than the value of English sterling currency it would be natural for any English halfpence introduced to pass as halfpence in Virginia to find their way elsewhere in a short time. This would defeat the aims of the Virginia assembly to keep copper coin in circulation. Realizing the impracticability of the 1769 act it was repealed and replaced by an act of February, 1772 ⁽⁸⁾ under which the treasurer was authorized to import £1000 sterling value of a special issue of coined copper in a denomination equivalent to a halfpenny in Virginia currency subject to the consent and regulations of the Crown.

The Crown authorized the coinage of not more than Twenty Five Tons of Virginia halfpence by Royal Warrant issued on May 20, 1773 for the benefit of John Norton, a former Virginian, and provided that 60 halfpence weigh one pound and be made at the Tower Mint by the Royal Mintmaster who was to be paid 5 pence per pound for striking and 20 shillings per ton for book-keeping. The dies were to be prepared at the mint, the obverse having the bust of George III surrounded with the inscription GEORGIUS·III·REX. and the reverse having a modified Virginia coat of arms to which

- (6) Statutes at Large of Virginia, W. W. Hening 10th George III, Chap. XII.
- (7) J. Wright, The American Negotiator or the Various Currencies of the British Colonies in America, London, 1761 and subsequently; Journals of the Continental Congress, Vol. III, p.319; Gaine's Universal Register, New York (1775) p. 148.
- (8) Statutes at Large of Virginia, W. W. Hening 13 George III, Chap. XVII.

the word VIRGINIA and the date were to be added. Copper

The arrangement for the copper to be furnished by John Norton was to enable him to purchase the metal as reasonably as possible so that the circulating value of the coin less the aggregate of cost of material, minting, bookkeeping and transportation would give rise to a profit. It can be assumed that John Norton was acting as agent for Virginia and that the profit would accrue ^{to} colonial government.

The designation of the weight of Virginia halfpence at 60 to the pound was logical from a theoretical point of view. Genuine English halfpence weighing 46 to the pound were then being minted. Since Virginia currency was worth almost 25% less than English exchange, the copper to be contained in Virginia halfpence was designated to weigh almost 25% less than that in English halfpence.

(10)
By proclamation dated November 16, 1774 it was recited that five tons of such halfpence were coined and were ready for export and that "we do accordingly hereby ordain, declare, and command that the said pieces of copper money, so coined, stamped, and impressed, as aforesaid, shall be current and lawful Money of and in our said colony of Virginia and of and within the districts and precincts of the same; and shall pass and be received therein after the rate following, that is to say, twenty-four of the said pieces shall pass and be received for the sum of one shilling, according to the currency of our said province of Virginia * * *". The maximum to be received in one payment was limited to the same amounts

(9) Public Records Office, London, Tome 52-62, p.379-81.

(10) Peter Force, American Archives, Washington, 1837

4th Series, Vol. I, p.982. See also The Numismatist, Vol. LI, p.695, August, 1938.

stated in the previous acts of the Virginia assembly, namely up to 60 halfpence in a payment of 20 shillings or more and up to 24 halfpence for smaller payments. According to the foregoing proclamation 672,000 of Virginia halfpence of 1773 were (11) coined which fact is confirmed by the records of the London Mint.

The Virginia halfpence apparently arrived in Virginia at the end of 1774 along with copies of the November 16, 1774 proclamation and many were paid out by the treasury in exchange for paper currency. At that time a few genuine and quantities of counterfeit English copper halfpence were circulating in New England at $2/3$ pence New England currency and in the central colonies at $3/4$ pence or more in their currencies. New England currency had exactly the same exchange value as Virginia currency at that time. Counterfeit English halfpence in circulation in America did not contain any more copper than Virginia halfpence and very often less. The intrinsic value of the metal in all the above-mentioned coppers was in any event less than half of their circulating value. Virginia merchants naturally were aware of all of these conditions. It is therefore logical to assume that those who received Virginia halfpence for the value of one-half pence in Virginia currency did not wish to spend them for that amount when coin of equivalent size and weight in neighboring colonies could be spent for a far greater value.

Virginia halfpence were in Virginia less than four months before the American Revolution began. The state of war influenced the people of Virginia and of the other colonies to hoard metallic money and first to spend their own paper money and the paper currency issued by the Continental Congress. Thus Virginia had a second economic force interfere with the natural circulation of its halfpence.

Thomas Jefferson on November 7, 1776 submitted to the General Assembly of Virginia a "Bill for Altering the Rates of

(11) Sir John Craig, *The Mint*, Cambridge University Press, 1953, p. 378-9.

Copper Coin of this Commonwealth" providing that the Virginia halfpence should pass for one penny each of Virginia money. He seems to have deemed it necessary to do so "For rendering the halfpenny prices of Copper coin of this Commonwealth of more convenient value and by that means introducing them into more general circulation".⁽¹²⁾ This proposal indicates that the only effective means to induce those who held Virginia coppers to spend them was to increase substantially their legal tender value.

In 1784 when Thomas Jefferson was participating in the plans for a copper coinage for the United States he made certain written suggestions which have heretofore mystified numismatists and made Jefferson appear to have been unfamiliar with the authorized copper halfpence of his own commonwealth. Jefferson states, "In Virginia coppers have never been in use. It will be as easy,⁽¹³⁾ therefore, to introduce them there of one value as of another." The facts heretofore set forth explain the meaning of Jefferson's assertion. The people of Virginia had determined to hoard their own coppers rather than use them for currency as halfpence and therefore there was no natural circulation of Virginia halfpence in Virginia. No other coppers had been permitted to be introduced into circulation in Virginia.

Virginia halfpence are reasonably common in uncirculated condition chiefly because of the discovery almost a century ago by Col.M.I.Cohen of a hoard of halfpence in Richmond still in the original keg. A few specimens of these coins have been dug up at Williamsburg during the course of restoration work indicating their contemporary ownership by several residents. Some specimens in collectors hands are well worn from circulation but it is likely that this circulation took place outside of Virginia after Virginia merchants had sent halfpence to other states where coppers of many types circulated freely at a higher value after the end of the Revolutionary War until 1789.

(12) Papers of Thomas Jefferson, Julian P. Boyd, Editor, 1950, Volume 1, page 597.

(13) Notes on the establishment of a Money Unit and of a Coinage for the United States, Papers of Thomas Jefferson, 1953, Volume 7, page 178.

1774 SILVER COINAGE

There are four known specimens of a 1774 Virginia
(14)
coinage in silver and all of them are brilliant proofs.
The bust on the obverse is much larger than that on the 1773
halfpence and the legend reads GEORGIVS • III DEI • GRATIA •
instead of GEORGIVS • III • REX • as specified in the 1773 royal
warrant and the 1774 proclamation. The text of the obverse
legend of the pattern would require on the reverse a title
at least with the word REX. The reverse however is exactly
the same style as the reverse of the 1773 copper halfpence
and only reads "VIRGINIA • 1774". It might be asserted be-
cause of the diameter of the pattern and its legend that the
obverse die might be a die for a guinea since no English
shillings were minted between 1763 and 1787, but the guineas
of that era have a period instead of the top of the head
separating III and DEI. No English coin or English pattern
has the obverse die of the 1774 Virginia coinage. The standard
legal weight for the coinage of English silver shillings
if they had been struck would have been 93 grains and it is
interesting to note that the 84 to 86½ grain weight of the
1774 pattern is about 10% below the English standard. The
reduced weight of the silver pattern indicates that con-
sideration might have been given to a Virginia shilling which
would stay in circulation in Virginia and not be exported
for its silver value. This could not be attempted unless
the value of Virginia currency could be raised so as to be

- (14) Specimens are in the collections of F.C.C.Boyd,
Johns Hopkins University, Mrs. R.Henry Norweb, and
the writer. Whether a 1774 bronze proof exists is not
certain. See James Atkins, The Coins and Tokens of
the Possessions and Colonies of the British Empire,
1889, p. 265.

at par with English currency and this was more than just a hope due to the stability and prosperity of Virginia at that time. Although no legal authority for the coinage of Virginia shillings exists the legends on the pattern indicate that something new was being attempted beyond the scope of the Virginia legislation, the 1773 royal warrant, or the 1774 proclamation. Numismatists are certainly justified in calling this 1774 muling a pattern shilling rather than a pattern halfpence in silver.

CLASSIFICATION OF VARIETIES

There are both major and minor die varieties of the 1773 Virginia halfpence. The major difference in the obverses is the existence or lack of a period after GEORGIVS. The major difference in the reverses is the number of strings in the harp on the coat of arms, there being either 6, 7 or 8. The bust of George III was punched in all obverse dies with the same hub and the Virginia coat of arms was punched in all reverse dies with the same hub. Generally the same number and letter punches were used for all legends and the position of these legends gives rise to the minor die varieties.

One 1773 reverse die still remains in the Royal Mint Museum.
(15)

The dies for the variety classified as 1-A are ^{usually} well cut. It has a proof-like surface and is perfectly struck on planchets weighing $135\frac{1}{2}$ grains or about 57 to the pound. This weight is 5% heavier than the weight officially required whereas the weight of all other varieties ranges between 105 and 128 grains. The planchet diameters of variety 1-A are $1-1/8$ inches, whereas the diameters of all other varieties range between $61/64$ inches to $1-1/32$ inches. These facts and the scarcity of variety 1-A lead to the conclusion that these are trial pieces struck from the first pair of dies prepared to submit for original approval. Apparently these trial dies were not used for production coinage as I have not found either of these dies used on any halfpence of a more normal weight.

(15) Hocking, Royal Mint Museum Catalogue, London
Vol. I., p.302.

This coin has been improperly referred to in the past as a penny but more correctly should be described as a trial piece for halfpence on a large planchet. Its principal design features which distinguish it from all other varieties are the small 7's in the date and only 6 strings in the harp.

In classifying varieties of the coinage the dies have been grouped so that the minor varieties are subdivisions of major varieties.

As to the obverse dies with period after GEORGIVS I find that the distance between the three periods varies on each die. I have measured in 64ths of an inch from the center of the period after GEORGIVS to the center of the period after III for the first length, from the center of the period after III to the center of the period after REX for the second length and from the center of the period after REX to the center of the period after GEORGIVS for the third length.

As to obverses with no period after GEORGIVS the distance in 64ths of an inch between the center of the two existing periods has been measured.

As to the reverses the dies are first grouped by the number of harp strings. There is one large leaf extending outward from the upper part of each side of the arms on the reverse. The leaf on the right ends opposite various portions of the first I and the leaf on the left ends opposite various portions of the first I and the leaf on the left ends opposite various portions of A. These differences are noted in describing the varieties.

The horizontal member of St. George's cross in the arms of Virginia is referred to as the horizontal divider and in cutting the lettering into the various dies the up-

right of the third I in VIRGINIA is sometimes parallel and sometimes not parallel to the line of the horizontal divider. This relationship is noted in describing the reverses.

There is a period after 1773 and a period after VIRGINIA. These periods were intended to be placed midway between the circular base line and the circular top line of the lettering and numbering. Some of these periods are centered; others are higher than the center line ranging up to the top line and these positions are noted. The shape of these periods is not always circular and some appear like flat lumps or dashes, but because of recutting these variations are not used as a basis for die distinction.

As quantities of coins were struck the wear on the dies produced some die breaks and also made it necessary to recut portions of the lettering. No attempt has been made to point out these minute differences by creating subvarieties. There has been a sufficient use of the magnifying glass already.

The following table describes 14 obverse dies and 16 reverse dies which are found combined to constitute 18 varieties:

*This technical table of 4 pages
will make of interest
to your readers as my
opinion*

The author will be grateful if readers will check specimens of Virginia halfpence so as to find such new dies and new combinations of dies as may exist. Gaps in the die designations have been left open for that purpose. Crosby indicates that twenty pairs of dies seem to have been used ⁽¹⁶⁾ but this is only an estimate.

The coins examined are principally from the collection of F.C.C.Boyd without whose continued encouragement and cooperation the author's research in early American numismatics would be drastically curtailed. The writer wishes to acknowledge the courtesies of the Missouri Historical Society, Harvard Law School Library, New York Historical Society, American Numismatic Society, Leonard S. Forrer, John Ford and Walter Green for the location of source material

16 Sylvester S. Crosby, Early Coins of America, Boston, 1878, p. 339.





ROYAL MINT,

LONDON. E.C.3.

13th June, 1955.

Royal Mint Ref: 9921/1955

I now enclose photostat copies of the documents mentioned in your letter of the 25th May, together with a rubbing of the obverse and reverse of the Virginia halfpence. The charge for this service will be five dollars and I have completed your cheque accordingly.

If you are in England in August and would care to visit the Royal Mint I shall be very happy to welcome you.

Yours sincerely,
A. R. B. [Signature]

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
400 Washington Avenue,
St. Louis 2, Missouri,
U.S.A.

~~I. Reuben Fletcher do swear not to reveal or discover to any Person or Persons whatsoever the new Invention of rounding the Monies or marking the Edges of them with Letters or Impressings or either of them directly or indirectly unless His Majesty His Heirs or Successors shall otherwise command or direct the same, So help me God. Reuben Fletcher~~
~~Reuben Fletcher, Apprentice to the Brethren and Company of Monayers within the Tower of London, in order to be instructed in the making and using the Instruments for rounding of His Majesties Monies or marking the Edges of them with Letters or Impressings or either of them took his Corporal Oath to the Effect above written before me the Deputy Warden of the said Mint this Ninth day of September. One thousand Seven hundred and twenty two~~
~~Edw Lucas Dep^y Warden~~

~~Witness my hand & the Seal of the said Mint~~

~~W^m Hankins~~

To the Right Honble the Lords Commissioners of His Majestys Treasury
 The Petition of John Norton of London, Virginia Merchant
 Most humbly sheweth

That Your Petitioner in the Year 1775 was empowered & directed there being no Agent for Virginia) by Robert Carter Nicholas Esq^r Treasurer of that Colony by Virtue of an Act of Assembly passed in the tenth Year of his Present Majestys reign (an Extract of which is herunto annex'd) to make Application to Lord Hillsborough to intercede with His Majesty for leave to have a Copper Currency in Virginia, the money to be coined in His Majestys Mint, with his Majestys Profile stamp'd on one side & the Arms of Virginia on the Reverse
 That Your Petitioner was to purchase the Copper at the expense

of the Colony, deliver it to the Officers of the Mint, ship the same to Virginia when coined & pay the Cost & charge of thereon.

That your Petitioner in consequence of these Instructions waited on Lord Hillsborough, but his Lordship as well as your Petitioner being of Opinion that the Gentlemen in Virginia had mistaken the Mode his Lordship first recommended to Lord Botsclourt, by which the Kingdom of Ireland was supplied with Copper coinage, they thinking it to be sterling instead of Irish Currency it made it necessary for his Lordship to write a Letter to Lord Dunmore which was accordingly done and dated 2. December 1771, a Copy of said Letter is annex'd and to which your Petitioner begs leave to refer.

Your Petitioner in consequence thereof received further Instructions from Robert Carter Nicholas in June last, importing that himself & the Gentlemen of the Council had really mistaken Lord Hillsborough's Mode relative to the Copper Coinage, & that they readily adopted his Lordships plan signified by him to Lord Dunmore for making Sixty Halfpence of the Avoirdupois pound of Copper to pass in Payment as Virginia currency being equal to two English Shillings the Par of Exchange; & that they were desirous of making tryal of the Value of One thousand Pounds Sterling which by Estimation will be about Five Tons of Copper, to see how it will operate in Virginia.

Your Petitioner on Receipt of these additional Instructions attended Lord Hulsborough several times & was told by His Lordship that he had the Affair much at Heart, & would send for your Petitioner after he had asked leave of His Majesty, & consulted M^r Cadogan on the Subject, but as his Lordship soon after went out of Office & nothing was done Your Petitioner is obliged to make Application to your Lordships to give him such directions towards ~~towards~~ carrying this Business into execution as your Lordships shall think most proper

And Your Petitioner will — pray
John Norton

Whitehall Treasury Chambers 4th Dec. 1712
The Right Hon^{ble} the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury are pleased to refer the foregoing Petition Charles Hoare Cadogan Esquire Master of His Majesty's Mint, who is to Consider the same and to report to their Lordships his Opinions whether the Prayer of the Petition may be properly complied with
John Robinson

Copy of Lord Hulsborough's Letter to Lord Dunmore, dated
Whitehall 2^d December 1711

My Lord M^r Norton a Virginia Merchant came to me this morning to lay before me some directions which he has received from the Treasurer of the Colony of Virginia, concerning a Copper Coinage to circulate in that Dominion, I take the Liberty to refer your Lordship to certain Letters which have passed between the late Lord Botticourt and me on that Subject These will inform your Lordship of the state of this matter, & you will find that the Directions now sent to M^r Norton are in consequence

of an Information received by Mr. President Nelson from me
 of the manner in which the Kingdom of Ireland is supplied
 with Copper Coin. but the Treasurer explains the Ideas of
 the Gentlemen who seem to approve of & to adopt that mode
 in such a manner as makes it necessary for me to trouble
 your Lordship with some further explanation concerning
 it, and observations upon it. Mr. Nelson & I considered
 the Treasurer's Letter with all the Attention we could give
 it, and we both thought there is some ambiguity in his
 expressions, which gave us room to suppose that the
 Proposition might be taken in two Ways. The first,
 that 52 Halfpence being coined out of Copper equal
 to the Value of two English Shillings each halfpenny
 should still pass at 25% more than an English
 halfpenny does in England, altho' only 48 English
 halfpence are coined out of the same quantity of Copper.
 But we could scarcely suppose this to be the Intention
 as it would be a Manifest Fraud, the other Proposition
 is not attended with any Fraud, as we apprehend is this.
 That the change of two English Shillings shall be
 52 Halfpence instead of 48. This might certainly be
 done, but it appears to me, that the Gentlemen had
 hastily adopted the Idea of the Irish Copper Coinage
 without considering the just and Useful proportion
 which it bears to the Nominal value of the English
 Shilling, and other English silver Coins current in
 that Country. For as the English Shilling there is.

denominat'd 13 Pence. 26 halfpence divide it into equal Parts,
and make the Change most Easy and Convenient and therefore they
have chose to coin the Noir dupois pound of Copper into 32 Halfpence
equal to 2 English Shillings. Now this may with great Facility be
adapted to the Case of Virginia for the two English Shillings passing
for 30 Pence Virginia Currency, the useful Division in the Coinage
of Copper would be to make 60 Halfpence out of the Noir dupois pound
of Copper equal to two English Shillings and if this Plan should
be agreeable to His Majestys Subjects in that Colony there is no
Objection to it, that immediately occurs to my Mind, and I am of
Opinion that it would be of very essential Service especially to the
Poor, I shall however take no other step in this Matter than to obtain
all the Information that I can with Regard to a measure of this Sort,
from those departments of Government to whom it more particularly
belongs - and in case no Objections arise from them, and your Lordship
finds what I now mention is agreeable to the Gentlemen on your side
the Water, I shall be ready to do my Part in carrying the measure into
Execution; I take the Liberty further to observe to your Lordship that
in the Plans hitherto Proposed the Colony has intended to lay out
£2500 in Copper Coinage, and I submit to your Lordships considera-
tion whether this be ^{not} too large a Sum for the first Experiment, and
whether it might not be more prudent to make the tryall upon £1000 -
which you will observe from the Account I sent over of the Irish Coinage
will amount to 5 Tons of Copper. It will be necessary if the Colony adopt this
Measure to employ Mr. Norton, or some other Agent to execute their

Commands in this Matter, and the Person they employ
shall have all the Assistance I can Give him, I thought
in Justice to M^r. Norton to inform your Lordships that
I thought I observ'd great Disinterestness in his Conversa-
tion upon this Subject. I have troubled your Lord-
ship with a very Long Letter but the matter I conceive
is of real Importance to the Colony and it will give
me the greatest satisfaction if I can be the Promoter
of any Measure that can conduce so essentially to
its Interest and Advantage as I really think this
will do —

I am My Lord
Your Lordships
Most Obedient M^ole Serv^t
Signed Hillsborough.

P.S. There may be such
a Proportion of Farthings coined
as the Colony shall think proper.

St 10th Geo. 3 Cap. 12th

Feb 2^d And be it further enacted by the Authority
aforesaid, that His Majesty shall be graciously
pleased to permit Copper Money to be brought in, and
passen this Colony, the said Treasurer shall at the
Public Expence cause so much of such Copper to be
purchased in Great Britain as at the Rates at which
it doth Pass there, will amount to Two thousand five
Hundred Pounds sterling, and to be imported into
this Colony, and shall pay the same away at the British
Rates to any Person having Legal Demands against the
Treasury, in such Proportion as is directed by an Act.

of Assembly made in the First Year of the Reign of King George the Second, intituled An Act for the better regulating, and ascertaining the current Rates of Silver Coin within this Dominion, and for preventing the evil Practice of cutting foreign Gold in Pieces, or the said Treasurer may exchange such Copper at the Rates aforesaid for other Money with any Person desiring such Exchange, and such Copper Money shall hereafter be current and pass in Payment in this Colony according to the Directions and Limitations in the last mentioned Act.

Virginia 1st May 1772

Sir

I have before advised you that our Assembly upon the Governor's communicating the Earl of Hillsborough's Letter on the Subject of Copper Money, very cheerfully adopted the Terms proposed by his Lordship in every Part. I presented an Address to Lord Dunmore to this Purpose. We are all of Opinion that it would be better to have the Copper coined into currency halfpence at the Rate of Sixty to the Pound according to the proposed, I think that the Value of two shillings neat, all expences deducted, will be sufficient to make the first Experiment with, I therefore begg the Favour of you to procure this Quantity & send it over properly insured, by the first good Opportunity.

I am very sorry that the Irish Plan was misunderstood; the President & Council, as well as our Speaker & myself thought, that the Copper directed to be coined for that Kingdom was of sterling Value & not Irish Currency.

Sir

I am with much Esteem

Your mo. ob. Serv^t
No. 1. Nicholas

To The Right Honble the Lords Commissioners
of His Majestys Treasury -

May it please Your Lordships
In Obedience to your Lordships order of reference
dated December the 3. 1772 Signified to me by M.
Secretary Robinson, I have examined the Petition of
John Norton of London Virginia Merchant, relative
to the Coinage of Halfpence in his Majestys Mint,
at the Rate of Sixty to the Pound Courdoigne for the
Use of the Colony of Virginia, and am humbly of Opinion
that the same may be complied with;

It seems at present that the Allowance for
the Coinage of Irish Copper will answer well to this
Currency, Provided no Farthings are required; but
some little Expence may attend the begining of it,
which the small Quantity proposed to be coined will
not make up for. All which is Nevertheless most
humbly Submitted to your Lordships
great Wisdom.

Mint Office

March 22. 1773

George

Whereas it has been represented unto us by the
Petition of John Norton Merchant presented to the
Commissioners of our Treasury that our Colony of Virginia

did by Virtue of an Act of Assembly past in the tenth Year of our
 Reign make Application to our Right Trusty and Right Wellbeloved
 Cousin and Counsellor Wills Hill Earl of Hillsborough then one of our Privy
 Secretaries &c State that he would intercede with us for leave to have a
 Copper Currency in our said Colony of Virginia And Whereas It has been
 represented unto us by the Commissioners of our Treasury of Ireland That
 the said John Norton has proposed to them to undertake the said
 Coinage and that his Proposal having been referred to you the Master
 of our Mint for your Consideration You have given your Opinion
 that the same is proper to be complied with Our Will and
 Pleasure is and We do hereby authorize and Command you Charles
 Hoare Cadogan Master and Worker of our Mint in our Tower of London
 to receive into our said Mint from the said John Norton or from such
 Persons as he shall contract with for that Purpose Fine Copper in Bars
 heated and which when heated Red hot will spread thin under the Hammer
 without cracking and which shall be of a due Size or Thickness to be
 prescribed by you and out of the same to coin Twenty five Sons or such
 lesser Quantity as shall be necessary for our said Colony in Halfpence
 of such a Bigness that Sixty of them may make a Pound Weight
 Above duodecimo excepting such small Errors as may happen in and by the
 unequal sizing of the Bars which Errors you shall endeavour that
 they be not in Excess or Defect above the thirtieth Part of a Pound Weight
 and this not by Design but only by accident And if the said Copper
 Bars do not bear the Assay in Size and Fineness you shall not
 receive the same but return them back to be Manufactured anew
 And the whole Quantity of Copper which shall be received by you in
 Bars from such Contractors as aforesaid shall be redelivered by you

by weight either in Monies to such Persons as shall be
 duly authorized to receive the same or in the full
 Brocage of the said Bars to the said Contractors to be
 recast and wrought over again at their Expence And
 You shall cause Our Effigies with the Inscription
GEORGIUS III REX to be stamped on one Side
 of each Piece And the Virginia Arms on the Reverse
 with the S^t Georges Cross leaving out the Escutcheons and
 crowns except one crown at the Top as on the Guinea
 without Crest Supporters and Motto except the Word
 Virginia Round the Arms with the Date of the Year
 And When any Quantity of such Monies shall be
 coined the same shall be well mixed in a Heap and
 assay'd by counting out Sixty Pieces from several
 parts of the Heap and weighed every Parcel so counted
 out And you shall also cause the same to be assay'd
 in Fineness by heating some Pieces of the Money Red
 Hot and then battering them to see if they will spread
 thin under the Hammer without cracking And you
 shall bear and sustain all Charges and Waste in
 cutting reeling flattening scouring blanching barreling
 coining assaying weighing and delivering the same
 at Our Mint in Our Tower of London For Five pence
 per Pound Weight and ~~per~~ exclusive of the Twenty
 shillings per Ton to be paid to our Clerk of the Copper
 Coinage of our said Mint For overseeing the said
 Coinage and keeping the Accounts thereof which said
 five Pence per Pound Weight and Twenty shillings per Ton
 shall be paid Quarterly And for the said Expenses of

Full power to you the said Master and Workmen the said
 You are to indemnify and save us and this Kingdom from any Charge
 and Demands whatsoever in respect of this intended Coinage And the
 Moneyers shall not buy vend or distribute any of the said new Coin'd
 Monies before the same shall be duly assayed and delivered to you the
 Master or Workmen. And we do further appoint and order that all Receipts
 and Deliveries of Copper in Bars or Sifted and all Deliveries of Monies from
 the Moneyers to you and from you to such Persons as shall be truly autho-
 rized to receive the same with the Assays thereof shall be entered in Books
 by the said Clerks who shall see all the Assays performed and the Bars
 of Money and Sifted weighed and one or more Pices taken out of every
 Parcel of Monies assayed to be kept in a Box under the Key and the Key
 of you the Master and Workmen in order to be tried at such Times before
 such Persons as the Commissioners of our Treasury now being or the High
 Treasurer or Comptrollers of our Treasury for the time being shall appoint
 And Our further Will and Pleasure is and we do hereby command and
 charge all the Officers of the Tower aforesaid That all Persons bringing
 in Copper in Bars to the said Mint or coming thither for Money or Sifted
 or Copper shall have ^{free} ingress egress and Issue by the ways and thro' the
 same Tower and Franchises thereof inward and outward at all Times
 without any arresting disturbance tarrying or saying of the Chief
 Governor Comptroller or Lieutenant or the Porter or any other Officer or
 Person whatsoever to be for any Manner of Debt Matter or Cause
 whatsoever it be and without any thing given to them or any other
 for to have such Entry And We do further Command and require
 the Moneyers Moneyers Smiths and all others attending on this Service
 to do their Duty with Diligence and Application and to observe
 the Tasks and Directions given them by you the said Master and

Worker for coining our said Monies well and with Dispatch
 And Whereas the Contractors are to deliver Bars so sized
 that sixty Halfpennys when cut out of the same shall
 make a Pound Tweight without erring either in Excess or
 Defect above one Thirtieth Part and it will not be possible
 to draw the said Bars to so exact a Size without cutting
 from time to time Halfpenny Blanks thereof and
 weighing the same Our farther Will and Pleasure is
 That you do deliver to the said Contractors one Proper Letter
 they the said Contractors giving Proper Security to return
 the same into our Mint at the Expiration of their Contract
 And for so doing this shall be as well to you as to
 all others concerned in this Coinage a sufficient Warrant
 Given at our Court at St. James's this Twentieth
 Day of May 1773 in the thirteenth Year of our
 Reign — By His Majesty's Command

To Charles Pearce Cadogan Esq.
 Master and Worker of our Mint
 within our Tower of London

North
 G. O. N. Low
 J. Dyson

To The Warden, Master and Comptroller of his Majesty's
 Mint.
 Gentlemen The Great Recoinage which will soon take
 place makes it expedient for me to represent to you
 the indispensable Necessity of my having an Assistant
 Fireman: and as by the Indenture of the Mint, You
 are empowerd to employ any additional Hands, that
 may be thought necessary for the Service, at the King's

Tuesday, the 31st of March, 1st Geo. III. 1772.

Resolved, that an humble Address be presented to his Excellency the Governor, returning unto the thanks of the House, for communicating the Earl of Hillsborough's Letter, on the subject of Copper Money; expressing the satisfaction we have received, in finding the Proposal, formerly made, for the introduction of such Coin into this Colony, is likely to be carried into execution, and the Obligations we are under to His Majesty's Ministers for giving such earnest attention to the views of the Colony, in this respect; assuring his Lordship, that we intirely approve the Scheme which the Earl of Hillsborough hath been pleased to recommend, and that we wish to adopt it, in every part.

By the House of Burgesses

J. Wythe, C. H. B.

Weights

Boyd No 1	135 $\frac{1}{2}$ gr.
Newman No 1	135 $\frac{1}{8}$ gr.

Boyd No 26	128
Boyd No 22	105
32	118
25	120
12	123

Max diam of No 1 $1\frac{1}{8}$ "

Max diam $1\frac{1}{32}$

Min. diam $\frac{61}{64}$

Wt of Va $\frac{1}{2}$ d

60 to the 4 around point

$$60 \overline{) 7000} = 116.\frac{2}{3}$$

Virginia Wts (actual) Newman collection

		Picker
26-Y	115 122	118
3 F	114 105	
6 X	122	
4 G	120	116
7 D	113	
8 O	122	115
9-B	112	
22 C	116	
23 R	107	
23 Q	115	117
24 K	122	
25 M	122	
27 J	122	119

1-A 136 gr

Virginia Die in Mont (London)

#2835 1773 Virginia reverse
production die (incuse)

Period after date measures V than 3.

I dislant from R

9 strings in harp

Tip ends right of right base of I

Tip ends left of left base of A

A close to leaf end

Period after date measures V than 3.
Leaf ends right of right base of I
Leaf ends left of left base of A.
That I slopes down to right
relative to horizontal direction.



FROM THE DESK OF MARK A. EDISON

Va Gazette March 21 1973

*Richmond
March 4, 1973*

*Inspection of Tobacco
will take only gold and
silver for inspection of
Tobacco*

Better Buy Brezner

Notice of Feb 27, 1775 found on

Pinkie	Mar 10, 1977
Pinkie	Apr 2, 1977
Pinkie & Hunter	Mar 11, 1975
" "	Mar 2, 1975
Pinkie & Hunter	Mar 9, 1975
Pinkie & Hunter	Apr 12, 1975

Proclamation 3707/24 -

Plan to encourage visits to the
along with conservation of the site

1890

~~the court~~

The Papers of Thomas Jefferson

Vol III p 170

Gouverneur Morris to William Demaree
30 Apr 1783

Georgia 1d = $\frac{4}{60}$

Very N. England 1d = $\frac{1}{72}$

Jersey Pa & Md 1d = $\frac{1}{90}$

New York 1d = $\frac{1}{96}$

p 173

Notes on Coinage

" 1d. the New England & Copper will differ little from the copper of the 4 Eastern States which is $\frac{1}{90}$ of a dollar; still less from the penny of New York and N. Carolina which is $\frac{1}{96}$ of a dollar and somewhat more from the penny or copper of Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland which is $\frac{1}{90}$ of a dollar. It will be about the ^{the} medium between the old and the new coppers of these states, and therefore will soon be substituted for them both. As Virginia's coppers have never been in use, it will be as easy therefore to introduce them there of one value as of another. The copper coin proposed will be nearly equal to three quarters of a penny which is the same with the penny current in the Eastern States."

New England & copper = $\frac{2}{3}$ d

~~Very N. England & copper = $\frac{1}{72}$ d~~

N. S. Pa & Md

1d?

(this is wrong as the copper is not the penny)

Bridgen suggests 32 to the pound
Assuming England has 48 to the pound

$$\frac{\frac{1}{32}}{\frac{1}{48}} = \frac{\frac{1}{32}}{\frac{1}{48}} \cdot \frac{\frac{48}{48}}{\frac{48}{48}} = \frac{1}{32} \cdot \frac{14}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{9} = \frac{1}{9} \cdot \frac{7}{27} = \frac{7}{243} = \frac{1}{35}$$

Bridgen is more of a Salesman than a mathematician

$$\frac{1}{32} = X \cdot \frac{1}{48} \quad X = 1.4375 \text{ or } 43\frac{3}{4}\% \text{ increase}$$

$$\frac{1}{32} = X \cdot \frac{1}{48} \quad X = 1.50 \text{ or } 50\% \text{ increase}$$

$$\frac{1}{32} = X \cdot \frac{1}{60} \quad X = 1.875 \text{ or } 87\frac{1}{2}\% \text{ increase}$$

Bridgen gets $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ by taking $\frac{48-32}{48} = 33\frac{1}{3}$

Bridgen gets 58% by taking $\left(\frac{60-32}{60}\right) 1.25 = \left(16\frac{2}{3}\right) \frac{5}{9} = 58\frac{1}{3}\%$

The letter also shows:

6 L sterling for 112# of coppers
6.20.12.2 32 coppers per # (29)

Cost is 2880 in $\frac{1}{2}$ d steel = 3584 coppers to circulate at $\frac{1}{2}$ d sterling

\$1.00 in Bridgen halfpence weighs $3\frac{3}{8}$ lbs
 $108 \times \frac{1}{32}$

\$1.00 in Virginia halfpence weighs 2.4 lbs
 $144 \cdot \frac{1}{60}$

Adjusting for the differential in Virginia currency
= $40\frac{5}{8}\%$ increase

Virginia Smith Sept 12, 1915

John, 2 letters, letters were given to the

1. Jan 5 1915 approaching for the ~~first~~ first winter

" and I was glad to hear that a few
months of my absence would be
beneficial. The people were glad to
hear from me and that I was well.
The people were glad to hear from
me and that I was well. The people
were glad to hear from me and that
I was well. The people were glad to
hear from me and that I was well.

3
1
2
3
4
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9
10
11
12

The Remembrance or Impartial Repository
of Public Events for the Year MDCCLXXV

J. Almon, London, 1775

p 103

May 5, 1775 Williamsburg

Citizens guarded the Treasury after
~~against~~ armed group of 150 men led
by Patrick Henry ~~demanding~~ stirred up the
~~the~~ citizens. Over 100 people guarded
the Treasury on May 5.

See letter of
Nicholas to Norton
for paper for paper
money in 1773

Virginia Gazette Aug 13, 1776
(Devon + Hunter) D17 Ag 76:31

Ready Money given for
OLD BRASS, at 18d per lb and
COPPER at 15d and the highest
Prices for OLD STILLs and KETTLES
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18d per lb
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The Official Records of Robert Dinwiddie
(1st Gov of the Colony of Virginia 1751-58)

Transactions of the Virginia Historical Society
New Series Vol IV Richmond, 1884 p. 341

Letter dated February 23, 1756 to the Lords of Trade proposing
a ~~poll~~ ^{poll} Tax on all the colonies and a land tax for all the colonies
"there is an Affair occurs to me that will make
some Difficulties in raising the above Taxes, with
in the great Scarcity of Silver and Gold. As Provisions
of all kinds will be wanted, those Colonies that
cannot pay in Money may they not supply
Provisions in lieu of Cash? and to be Charg'd
at the Curr't Price they are sold for? But this
I submit to Y^r Superior Judgement, or if tho't
proper that the Money sh'd be coined at home for
Paym't of all the Officers, Civil and Military, to be sent
annually to the different Colonies, that the Money as
coined may be with Inscriptions, as maybe tho't proper,
to distinguish it from American Curr'cy. Thus the French
have practiced for many years. The Gov't may save
5 p. Ct on the Coinage, and be at no more charge
th'm at pres't in pay'g the Salaries, etc., at Home
and the Advantage the Colonies w'd reap is plain,
by hav'g so much Money sent over to them annually,
and obliging them to pay the above Taxes in Cash, and
in a few Years w'd put an end to all paper
Curr'cy, so much complain'd of by the merch'ts
at home and the subjects, ***."

Of foregoing
Partial quotation in Am. Jour. Num. (1882)
Vol XIX p 92

1030 XXIX 729
1894

Tutor's Article on
the Virginia Company
recovered

your letter about the
company's account
recovered

Royal Mint
Punchon of head of Geo III
raised

~~The~~ Matrix partly improved by
cutting

J. H. Hickcox

p21

~~Jan 1845~~

An Historical Account
of American Currency
Albany 1845

There is a 1645

Law passed about copper
coin. There is substantial
detail as to striking.

As to the Va $\frac{1}{2}$ \$ he says

"It probably had no very
considerable circulation"

convenient, and the names of such poor persons shall be called over, and the reasons of their receiving relief examined, and such of the said poor shall then be continued on the parish, or discharged therefrom, as the said vestry shall direct. And that the poor of every parish may be the better known,

Poor to wear
a badge.

VIII. *Be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid,* That every person who shall receive relief from the parish, and be sent to the said house, or houses, shall, upon the shoulder of the right sleeve of his or her uppermost garment, in an open and visible manner, wear a badge, with the name of the parish to which he or she belongs, cut either in blue, red, or green cloth, as the vestry or churchwardens shall direct; and if any poor person shall neglect or refuse to wear such badge, the vestry or churchwardens of such parish may punish such offence, either by ordering his or her allowance to be abridged, suspended, or withdrawn, or the offender to be whipped, not exceeding five lashes for one offence, or at one time; and if any person, not entitled to relief as aforesaid, shall presume to wear such badge, he or she so offending shall, in like manner, be whipped for every such offence, by order of any justice of the peace, unless he or she shall immediately pay down the sum of ten shillings to the churchwardens, for the use of the poor of that parish where the offence shall be committed.

Public act

IX. *And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid,* That this act shall be taken and allowed in all courts within this colony as a public act, without specially pleading the same.

CHAP. VII.

An Act to amend an act, intituled, An Act declaring the laws concerning executions, and for the relief of insolvent debtors, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

Edit 1769,
p. 323.

Preamble

I. WHEREAS by an act of General Assembly, made in the twenty second year of the reign of his

present majesty, intituled, An act declaring the law concerning executions, and for the relief of insolvent debtors, it is among other things enacted, that where any writ of execution is sued out upon a judgment, in any action for sterling money, the sheriff or other officer to whom such writ is directed, shall levy the same, in current money, at the rate of twenty five per cent. advance upon the sterling, for a difference of exchange, which is oftentimes found not to be a full satisfaction for the damage sustained by occasion of the non-acceptance, or non-payment of bills of exchange, or sufficient to enable merchants to remit the money due to them in this colony without great loss.

II. BE it therefore enacted, by the Lieutenant Governor, Council, and Burgesses, of this present General Assembly, and it is hereby enacted, by the authority of the same, That in any action which hath been or shall be commenced, and is or shall be depending, for the recovery of any sterling money, in any court of record in this dominion, wherein the plaintiff or plaintiffs shall recover, such court shall have power, and are hereby directed by rule to be entered, at the foot of their judgment, in such action to order such judgment to be discharged or levied in current money, at such a difference of exchange as they shall think just; any law, usage, or custom, to the contrary thereof, in any wise notwithstanding.

III. And be it further enacted, That if any person shall, in any suit hereafter to be brought, declare for sterling money, except where the debt or duty is payable in sterling, the plaintiff in every such suit shall be non-suited; and if any person shall, after the passing of this act, take a bond, obligation, or note, payable in sterling, for any current money debt, and shall bring any suit thereon, the court before whom such suit shall be tried, upon proof being made thereof, shall order the judgment to be discharged or levied in current money, at the rate of twenty five per cent.

IV. And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That in all bills of exchange given after the first day of October next, for any debt due in current money of this colony, or for current money advanced and paid for such bills, it shall be mentioned and expressed in such bills, the sum in current money that was paid or allowed for the same; and, in default thereof, in case such bill shall be protested and a suit brought

Judgment for a sterling debt to be discharged at such a difference of exchange as the court shall think proper.

Where a person may declare for sterling money, where not, and how to be levied.

In all bills of exchange, it is to be expressed what was paid for the same, and the penalty, to insert any o-

ther than the true sum. for the recovery of the money due thereby, the sum of money expressed in such bill shall be held and taken as current money, and judgment shall be entered accordingly: And if any person so receiving or purchasing a bill of exchange shall express or cause to be expressed therein any other than the true sum in current money allowed for the same, every such person so offending, shall forfeit and pay to the person drawing such bill, the whole sum of money for which such bill shall be drawn: to be recovered with costs, by action of debt, in any court of record within this colony, wherein the same shall be cognizable.

V. And to the end people may not be injured, for want of due proof of the rate of exchange so given or allowed for such bills, where the same is not truly expressed therein, such bills being usually negotiated in secret, and with such caution, that it can seldom be detected in the ordinary course of evidence, *Be it further enacted*, That it shall and may be lawful for any drawer of such bill of exchange to exhibit a bill in chancery, in any court of record in this colony, against the person to whom such bill shall be payable, to compel him to discover upon his corporal oath the true difference of exchange given or allowed for such bill; and, in that case, if it shall appear that a less rate of exchange was given or allowed than is expressed, the drawer of such bill shall be discharged from the penalty herein before inflicted for the same; but shall be decreed to pay to the drawer so much money as the rate of exchange allowed shall be less than the rate of exchange expressed, together with the damages of ten per centum, per annum thereon, to the time of such decree, and costs of suit.

VI. And whereas many persons come from beyond sea, and here settle and trade with the subjects of this colony, who become indebted to them on account of such dealings; and the persons so trading, in order to entitle themselves to many advantages allowed to the merchants resididg in Great Britain, and bringing suits here for the recovery of debts contracted there, do pretend that they are factors for some persons beyond the sea: and do accordingly commence suits, in the names of such pretended principals, although it is reasonable that the debts so contracted should be considered, in all respects, as other debts between persons residing in this colony: for remedy whereof,

11
Hawking Vol VI

p 718-718

2.8 Dec II Chap III

May Session 1755

Session began Feb 1, 1772

12th Dec III ^{Hemming} p 524-6
Chap XVII

actually passed April 8, 1772
by Legislative Council and
by House of Burgesses

regulating and ascertaining the current rates of silver coin within this dominion, and for preventing the evil practice of cutting foreign gold into pieces, it is, amongst other things, enacted, that if his majesty, his heirs, or successors, should think fit, at any time hereafter, to permit copper coin to be brought in and pass in this colony, the same should pass and be current at the like rates it doth pass in Great-Britain. And whereas by one other act of assembly, passed in the tenth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled An act for the better support of the contingent charges of Government, it is, amongst other things, enacted that if his majesty should be graciously pleased to permit copper money to be brought in and pass in this colony, the treasurer should, at the public expence, cause so much of such copper to be purchased in Great Britain, as at the rates at which it doth pass there would amount to two thousand five hundred pounds sterling. And whereas it is represented to this general assembly, that it will be more convenient for the purposes to which copper money is usually applied, to have the same coined into halfpenny pieces of the value of one fourth current money of Virginia, instead of sterling money of Great Britain, and that the value of one thousand pounds sterling, in such currency halfpence, will be sufficient to answer the present occasions of the colony: *Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council, and Burgesses, of this present General Assembly, and it is hereby enacted, by the authority of the same, That so much of the last mentioned act as impowers the treasurer to import copper money, to the amount of two thousand five hundred pounds sterling, is hereby repealed.*

Part of 10
Geo III
cap. 12. re-
pealed.

II. *And be it farther enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That if his majesty should be graciously pleased to authorize the circulation of copper money in this colony, the treasurer for the time being shall, at the expence of the public, import so many halfpence of the value of the current money of Virginia as may be purchased for one thousand pounds sterling, exclusive of costs and charges, to be issued and exchanged, at the public treasury, for the purposes, and under the regulations, prescribed and directed by the said recited acts.*

Halfpence
of 1000l.
sterling va-
lue to be im-
ported, &c.

III. *Provided always, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to restrain his majesty from regulating the currency of the said copper money with-*

in this colony, in such a manner as his majesty, by his royal proclamation, or by his royal instructions to his governor, or commander in chief of this colony, for the time being, shall, from time to time, judge proper and necessary.

CHAP. XVIII.

An act for the ease and relief of the people by paying the Burgesses wages in money for the present session of Assembly.

Burgesses' wages payable in money.

WHEREAS by one act of assembly, passed in the third and fourth years of the reign of his late majesty king George the second, intituled An act for the better regulating the payment of the burgesses wages, it is among other things, enacted, that when any session of assembly should be thereafter held, and upon examination of the treasurer's accounts, it should appear that there are monies sufficient in his hands to discharge all the money debts together with the burgesses wages and salaries and allowances to the respective officers of the general assembly, saving and reserving in the hands of the treasurer such sum above the said allowances, as should be at least one hundred pounds at least, that then every burgess, elected and serving for any county or corporation within this dominion, should be paid, out of the public money, the sum of ten shillings for each day he should serve in the house of burgesses, with such further allowances, and under such restrictions and regulations, as in the said act is at large directed: And whereas it appears there is not money sufficient in the treasurer's hands to pay the burgesses wages for this present session of assembly, leaving a balance of fifteen hundred pounds, according to the directions of the said act; nevertheless, as the payment of the said wages in money will be a great ease and relief to the inhabitants of this colony, by lessening the levy by the poll, Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council, and Burgesses, of this present General Assembly, and it is hereby

or refuse to pay the money, on the bonds aforesaid, when the same shall become due, it shall and may be lawful for the general court, or the court of the county where such buyer resides, on a motion to them made by the treasurer of this colony for the time being, to give judgment on the said bonds, and thereon to award execution; provided such buyer and his securities, his and their heirs, executors or administrators, have ten days previous notice: And where the depositum shall be less than one thousand pounds of tobacco, the sheriff shall in the month of July or August, at his county court-house, sell such tobacco for ready money, and immediately pay the same to the treasurer aforesaid; which monies shall be accounted for by the said treasurer to the general assembly.

CHAP. XII.

An Act for the better support of the contingent charges of government.

I WHEREAS it hath been judged expedient in compliance with his majesty's requisition, made to this house of burgesses, in this present session of Assembly, to vote the sum of two thousand five hundred pounds sterling towards defraying the expences of running a line between this colony and the Cherokee country, and moreover to direct an application to be made to his majesty to permit copper money to be imported into this colony, to the value of two thousand five hundred pounds sterling, and pass for the greater convenience of change in small payments: *Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council, and Burgesses, of this present General Assembly, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That as soon as his majesty's ultimate resolution shall be known, in regard to the boundary to be established between this colony and the Cherokee Indians, Robert Carter Nicholas, esq;* treasurer of this colony, or the treasurer for the time being, appointed by or pursuant to act of assembly, shall out of the public money in his hands, from time to time, pay to such person or persons as he shall be

Recital

Expences of negotiating with Indians for establishing a bound

Passed Dec 20, 1769 by
both legislative Council
& by House of Burgesses
10th January 1771
Hening p 342-3

for preventing the evil practice of
cutting foreign gold into pieces;
or the said treasurer may
exchange such copper at the
rates aforesaid for other
money, with any person
desiring

directed by warrant from the governor and commander in chief for the time being, so much money as shall be necessary to defray the expenses of the said militia, and running the said aforesaid, the whole sum to be paid on each occasion, doth not exceed the sum of two thousand five hundred pounds sterling.

II. And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That it his majesty shall be graciously pleased to permit copper money to be brought in, and pass in this colony, the said treasurer shall, at the public expense, cause so much of such copper to be purchased in Great-Britain as at the rates, at which it doth pass there, will amount to two thousand five hundred pounds sterling, and to be imported into this colony; and shall pay the same away at the British rates to any persons having legal demands against the treasury, in such proportions as is directed by an act of assembly, made in the first year of the reign of king George the second, intituled *An act for the better regulating and ascertaining the current rates of silver coin within this dominion, and for preventing the evil of cutting foreign silver into pieces*: and the said treasurer shall cause such copper to be paid for other money, and in any person having such exchange, and such copper money shall thereafter be current, and pass in payment in this colony according to the directions and limitations in the said last mentioned act. And whereas, besides the money aforesaid, there are large sums of money due from the public to several persons in this colony, as appears by their different claims, settled and allowed by this present general assembly; and several other considerable sums will shortly become due to different persons for large quantities of tobacco lately damaged and destroyed in the public warehouses: which several sums of money, by reason of the deficiency of the public fund, cannot be raised by the duties already imposed; and it hath been found by experience that the taxes on process, ordinary licence, and wheelbarriages, and additional duty on slaves by law for running which will expire on the fourteenth day of February next, and a tax on tobacco made and shipped, are easy to the people, and not so burthenous as a poll tax.

III. Be it therefore further enacted, That from and after the said fourteenth day of February next, there shall be levied and paid to our sovereign lord the king

daily, not exceeding 1000 l. sterling, to be paid by 1763-1764

to be imported with the king's permission

payable at certain rates.

21 Nov 1763

CHAP. X

An Act for settling and ascertaining the current
Rates of Foreign Coins in this Dominion

* * *

And for the conveniency of change and small payments,

Be it further enacted, That if her Majestie, her heirs
or successors, shall think fitt, at any time hereafter,
to permit copper money to be brought in and pass in this
Colony, the same shall pass and be current in this Colony,
at the like rates it doth pass in Great Britain.

Provided, That no person shall be obliged to take
above two shillings and six pence of the said copper mony
in any one payment, whatsoever, above twenty shillings, or
to take above one shilling of the said copper money in any
one payment under twenty shillings.

And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid,
That if any person or persons shall hereafter presume to
coin, counterfeit, falsifye, or debase any of the Coins
above mentioned, or shall be aiding, consenting or council-
ling therein, he, she, or they, so offending, upon being
thereof lawfully convicted, shall be deemed and adjudged as
offenders in treason, and shall suffer such paines, penal-
ties and forfeitures, as are mentioned in the Act of Parlia-
ment, made in the eighteenth year of the Reign of Queen
Elizabeth.

Statutes of Virginia

Henning Vol III p. 503

Oct Session, 1710

9th Anne Chap X

CHAP. X

An Act for settling and ascertaining the current
Rates of Foreign Coins in this Dominion

And for the conveniency of change and small payments,

Be it further enacted, That if her Majestie, her heirs or successors, shall think fitt, at any time hereafter, to permit copper money to be brought in and pass in this Colony, the same shall pass and be current in this Colony, at the like rates it doth pass in Great Britain.

Provided, That no person shall be obliged to take above two shillings and six pence of the said copper money in any one payment, whatsoever, above twenty shillings, or to take above one shilling of the said copper money in any one payment under twenty shillings.

And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall hereafter presume to coin, counterfeit, falsifye, or debase any of the Coins above mentioned, or shall be aiding, consenting or counselling therein, he, she, or they, so offending, upon being thereof lawfully convicted, shall be deemed and adjudged as offenders in treason, and shall suffer such paines, penalties and forfeitures, as are mentioned in the Act of Parliament, made in the eighteenth year of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth.

CHAP. IX.

An Act for the better regulating and ascertaining the current rates of Silver Coin within this Dominion; and for preventing the evil practice of cutting Foreign Gold into pieces.

IV. And for the conveniency of change and small payments, Be it further enacted, That if his majesty, his heirs and successors, shall think fit, at any time hereafter, to permit copper money to be brought in, and pass in the colony, the same shall pass and be current in this colony, at the like rates it doth pass in Great Britian.

V. Provided, That no person shall be obliged to take above two shillings and six pence of the said copper money, in any one payment whatsoever, above twenty shillings, or to take above one shilling of the said copper money, in any one payment under twenty shillings,

Statutes of Virginia

Henning Vol IV p 219

Feb session 1727

1st Geo II Chap IX

CHAP. IX.

An Act for the better regulating and ascertaining the current rates of Silver Coin within this Dominion; and for preventing the evil practice of cutting Foreign Gold into pieces.

IV. And for the conveniency of change and small payments, Be it further enacted, That if his majesty, his heirs and successors, shall think fit, at any time hereafter, to permit copper money to be brought in, and pass in the colony, the same shall pass and be current in this colony, at the like rates it doth pass in Great Britain.

V. Provided, That no person shall be obliged to take above two shillings and six pence of the said copper money, in any one payment whatsoever, above twenty shillings, or to take above one shilling of the said copper money, in any one payment under twenty shillings,

the rate of Va currency to
(1) English was fixed by law

Hening VI - 479

Richmond Dispatch Sept 22, 1877

JH Hickcox An Historical Account of
America Coinage, Albany 1858

$$H \approx 1$$

$$(100)(3)(10) = 3000 = .344$$

$$H = \frac{2\pi(10)5}{r}$$

$$\frac{-\Delta\phi}{\Delta t} = \frac{\Delta\phi}{\Delta t} \quad \frac{\Delta\phi}{\Delta t} = \frac{\Delta\phi}{\Delta t} \quad \frac{\Delta\phi}{\Delta t} = \frac{\Delta\phi}{\Delta t}$$

$$1.96 \times 10^6$$

Papers of Thomas Jefferson, Julian P. Boyd,
Editor, 1950. Vol I p 597

Footnote

Locketed by T. Jefferson

"Bill for altering the rates of the Copper Coin
of this Commonwealth."

endorsed in at least two other hands "1776,
Nov. 7. Read the first time. Nov. 8, Read

2^d Time & Committed to a whole November 21st.
Rejected."

on Nov 7, 1776

Jefferson was appointed a committee to bring
on this bill & submitted it the same day.

"Bill for Altering the Rates of the Copper Coin
of this Commonwealth"

"For rendering the halfpenny pieces of Copper
then coin of this Commonwealth of more
convenient value and by that means introduce
them into more general circulation; Be it enacted
by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth
of Virginia that from and after the passing of this
act the said pieces of Copper coins shall
pass in all ~~payment~~ payments for
one penny each of current money of
Virginia."

Provided nevertheless as was heretofore
provided by the laws that no person shall be
obliged to take above one shilling of the said
copper coins in any one payment of twenty
shillings or under, nor more than two shillings
and six pence of the said coin in any ~~one~~
payment of a greater sum than twenty shillings

Virginia laws

An Act declaring the law concerning Executions; and
for relief of Insolvent debtors

Henning V p. 526 (L.C. 540)

22nd George II Oct 1743 session, Chap XII Sect XXIX

"That where any writ of execution shall after the
passing of this act be sued out upon any judgment
debt, or simple, bond, or other debt, on either side -
any count of record of this Court, for staying
any of the said writs, or for any other cause, shall
be deemed null and void in law, and no money,
or the value of twenty pence per cent. shall be paid
the staying for, or difference of exchange, and not otherwise."

The above act was amended

28th George II Chap VII Sec II, III

V Henning p 73 (L.C. 479) Henning 121

Any judgment or debt may be discharged
in execution money "at such a difference
of exchange as the Court shall think fit; any
law, usage, or custom to the contrary thereof,
be any writ notwithstanding."

15% discount on duties for bringing in coin
19th George II Chap I Sec XIV (Feb Session 1745)
V Henning: 216

{ Acts of July 1755 p 69
Acts of May 1776 pp 134, 248
Acts of Oct 1776 p 224

Hennings Vol IX

Session began Feb 1, 1912

Feb, 1912 Act 12th Genl

+ 534-6

Actually passed April 8, 1912
by Legislative Council

Bongas had bill read a second
time & engrossed on April 3, 1912
and passed by April 8, 1912
(p 303)

Council agreed 10/21/68
House of Reps 11/20/68

Journal of the House of Burgesses of
Virginia, edited by John Pendleton Kennedy,
Richmond, Virginia, 1906

p. 17 May 25, 1770. ~~report by the House~~
"and as to the Copper Money, which is desired
to have circulated among us, our humble request
is that it may be current here, as in Great Britain
allowing for the difference between Sterling Money
and the Currency of this Colony, at the rate of
Twenty-four for £1."

(ordered) ^{passed} by committee of
the Treasurer, Mr. Bland, Richard Henry Lee, Mr. Harrison

House of Delight, Journal

1716

Final

found in 1716 - report of 1716
standing Transcript

MERCHANTS OF LONDON AND VIRGINIA

Be pleased to make my Compliments acceptable to your Lady & Family & believe me, on all Occasions,

Dr Sir,

Yr affte hble Servt

Ro. C. Nicholas

To

Mr. Norton

of London

Virginia the 30th Novr. 1772

Sir—

I am sorry to find from your last Letter that you are under the smallest Difficulty about the Copper Money; I shou'd have hoped that Lord Hillsborough, before he went out of Office, had put this Business into such a Train, that little more would have been wanting, than to pay the usual Expences of the Offices, the Cost of Copper & the Charge of Coinage: all which you were fully authorized by me as Treasurer of this Colony, to do. I make no doubt before this gets to hand, but that you will have presented a proper Memorial on the Subject to the Lords of the Treasury, as recommended by the present Secretary of State* for the American Department, who, from the exceeding amiable Character he bears amongst us, we flatter ourselves will countenance every reasonable Proposition, which may be of Advantage to his Majesty's dutiful Subjects of Virginia. You, Sir, are intimately acquainted with our Situation, & the nature of our Traffic, & can I am sure, with the utmost Propriety explain the inconveniences Many Parts of this Country labour under for want of a small Species of Coin in the ordinary Course of Business. I have formerly written to you so fully & explicitly upon the Subject, that I need not repeat all my former Observations. I will only beg leave to refer you to what past between Lord Hillsborough & our Governor upon the Occasion, & the Resolutions & Addresses of our House of Burgesses in Answer to the Earl of Dunmore's Message to the House, all which may, without doubt, be found in the Secretary of State's Office. Lord Hillsborough, in answer to

*Earl of Dartmouth.

JOHN NORTON & SONS

Lord Botetourt our late Governor's Representation, was pleased to transmit to our Commander in Chief, then Mr. President Nelson, the Scheme which had been adopted for supplying Ireland with a Copper Coinage. this would have been very agreeable to us, but it seems his Lordship was misunderstood; he was therefore afterwards pleased by a Letter to our present Governor to propose that the Copper shou'd be coined in Virginia Currency & not in Sterling half Pence, at the Rate of Sixty to the Pound Avoirdupoise, & that instead of £ 2500 Sterlig value, we should make our first Experiment with £ 1000. Our House of Burgesses very cheerfully acquiesced in his Lordships Opinion, & immediately came to several Resolutions, which were sent to his Lordship, & of which I inclose you an Attested Copy. These several Transactions added to the Utility of the Measure, wou'd furnish, I shou'd think, proper & ample Materials for a Memorial, & I make no Question but you either have or soon will avail yourself of them: If his Majesty will be graciously pleased to indulge us with a Trial of this Kind of Money, I shou'd be solicitous to have it procured & sent over as soon as possible, because frequent Enquiries are made of me from different Parts of the Country when it may be expected. I am with much Esteem,

Sir

Your most Obedt

Humble. Servt.

Ro. C. Nicholas

ENDORSED:

Virga. 30 Novr. 1772 / R. C. Nicholas / Rec'd 29 Janry 1773 / pa. 146 /
Ans. the 15 March 1773 pr H. Esten.

Mr. Norton—London

Virginia December 10th 1772

Dear Sir

I wrote you a few lines at Williamsburg, advising that a packet I had prepared for you, and put into Capt. Necks Letter Box at the Raleigh, was with others torn & destroyed, and desired you would bespeak of Mr. Wallers Relations, a small Post Chariott, or Chaise,

John Norton & Sons Merchants of London
and Virginia

Edited by Frances Norton Mason

Published by the Dietz Press of Richmond, Virginia 1937

p. 6 John Norton moves from Virginia to
London in 1764

p 115 letter Robert C Nicholas to John Norton & Son Williamsburg 12/28/69

"Our Countrymen are desirous of introducing
Copper Money amongst us & in the last Assembly
address'd the Governor & intercede with his Majesty
to allow it to be current. So soon as the King's
Proclamation appears for that purpose, I am
directed to import as many half Pence as £2500
st. will purchase; but as I am pretty much a
Stranger to a thing of the Sort, I should be
glad of your advice, in the mean Time, how
Are to be procured upon the best Terms."

p 204 R.C.N. to J.N. 11/14/71 Thanking for trouble about money

p 230 R.C.N. to J.N. 4/6/72

"My Lord Treasurer, Our Governor, some Days ago
laid before the House of Burgesses the Earl of
Hillsborough's letter on the Subject of Copper Money; the
House of Burgesses have expressed their obligations to the
Noble Earl for his kind Attention to their wishes in this
Respect & have agreed to adopt the Plan he hath
been pleas'd to propose in every part. We all ~~think~~
think that Currency suit best & that £1000 st. of
exclusive of Costs & Charges will be enough to make
the great Sum of Copper Money, to consist wholly of half
pence & send it over, properly insured, to me or to the Treasurer
in the time being, by the very first opportunity. The mistake

in my former letter - the Papers accompanying it
were entirely from a Misapprehension of Lord
Hillsborough's letter & the Papers accompanying
it; The President & Council, as well as our ~~Speaker~~
~~and~~ myself understood that the £d half Pence
to the Pound, mentioned in the King's Warrant
to the Mint, was of sterling Value & not Dutch
Currency, as we now find was intended "

p 231 RCN to JN 4/17/72 partial repetition of 1/12/72 act.

p 236 RCN to JN 5/20/72 further Charles

p 244-5 RCN to JN 6/16/72

" I have wrote you several times lately on the
subject of Copper Money, advising that our Assembly
very cheaply agreed to adopt Lord Hillsborough's
Proposals in every part; we all think that
the new half pence would be best at sixty to
the pound here & suppose & that it would be
advisable to make the first Experiment with no
more than 5000 sty value exclusive of test. I
have only an opportunity at present of consulting with
the Speaker*, we are both willing to give up the
word Pence, as it seems to be exceptionable & I
don't say the rest of the Gentlemen will concur in
Opinion, so that it may be struck out. We highly
approve either of the Designs for the back & front,
but, if you two should prefer that which has the
mine or branch running up the inner Edge
as we think it fills up better & makes the figure
more compleat

p 265 J.N to John Hatley Norton London 8/6/72

"~~xxx~~ his said if it ~~was~~ carried into execution Lord Hillsborough goes only
I suppose this prevents my being able to get the Affairs of Copper
Money fixed, tho I have been promise by his Lordship I should be
and have frequently attended him to that purpose "

p 267 JN to JHN 8/6/72 postscript dated 8/8/72

Mr. Montagu is just by me and says
L. Hillsborough has resigned and Lord
Dartmouth appointed in his stead so that I
have a fresh application to make about the Copper
Coin,

RCN to JN+Son 9/19/72

"I think I desired you some time ago
to charge my private & give the Treasury
Acct credit for £400 Stg in part of the
Copper Money"

p 287 RCN to JN 11/30/72

Long letter about copper coinage
need for it - cooperation to split - country to pay
~~very soon~~ (only subject)
discussable

p 306-7 RCN to JN 3/17/73 Nelson paper money
Paper counterfeiting - James Rane Bank

p 313 JN to J.H.N. 3/20/73

"As I have reason to think the officers of the
mint have reported to the Treasury in my favor.
I ~~do~~ expect I shall be set to work before long
tho' we shall want particular tools to be made for
the purpose of stamping

p 314 RCN to JN+Son 4/24/73

"Many People are very impatient for the
Copper Money," which I'm in hopes will soon
be procured by your friendly Assistance. I should
be pleased to remember that it is to be sent immediately
to me as Treasurer & not to any other Person."

p 326 JN to JHN 5/29/73

"I have just recd the Kings warrant for Copper Coinage, which hope will now ~~not~~ meet no more delays. I have damned Attendance pretty often about it to the Treasury office"

p 332 RCN to JN 6/1/73

"I am glad to hear you have got the Copper into so good a way at last. You'll remember &c &c & he sent immediately to me, & I think it will be necessary to procure a Warrant or Instruction to our Governor to declare it current in this Colony, as you know it is a matter of Prerogative."

p 340 RCN to JN 7/30/73 copper plate for paper money

p 342 ~~RCN to JN~~ postscript to above

"You'll observe from the Sample of Paper sent that I have peculiarly adopted to the James River Bank; I have thrown all the superfluous words into Parenthesis, as a Mark that they are not to be read, tho they may stand as so many checks in the Bill."

p 344 JN to ~~JN~~ JHN 7/31/73

"I have a large Quantity of Copper d'd at the Mint, which is cutting ready for Coinage, but the Engraver is so Dilatory that he has not furnished all the Tools. I still hope to get the Money coined in about a Month or 6 weeks. I gave Cap. Barron one of the ps which is the size of a Guinea, & thickness of a half Penny."

p352 JN to JHN 9/25/73

" I hope to send the Copper money on
great part thereof pr. the Virga. which will
save some ballast

p367

Feb 14, 1774 The Virginia, Capt
Howard Esten from London arrived
in York River with five tons of
Copper Half pence on board.

(Is this 1774 or 1775)

1774 is confirmed by

Virginia Gazette 2/24/74

Purdie & Dixon

The Virginia, Howard Esten from London
with five tons of Halfpence on board is
arrived in York River."

The Virginia was owned by John Norton & Sons

Petition of John Norton of London, Virginia Merchant,
referred by the Board of Treasury to the Master of
His Majesty's Mint on ~~March 12, 1773~~. *Dec 3, 1772*
(Copy of copy in Mint Record Books No. 12, pp.201ff)

"That your Petitioner in the year 1771 was empowered and directed (there being no agent for Virginia) by Robert Carter Nicholas, Esq~~u~~^{re}, Treasurer of that Colony by virtue of an Act of Assembly passed in the tenth year of his present Majesty's reign (an extract of which is hereunto annexed) to make application to Lord Hillsborough to intercede with His Majesty for leave to have a Copper Currency in Virginia, the money to be coined in His Majesty's Mint with His Majesty's Profile stamped on one side and the Arms of Virginia on the reverse.

"That your Petitioner was to purchase the Copper at the expense of the Colony, deliver it to the Officers of the Mint, ship the same to Virginia when coined and pay the cost and charges thereon.

"That your Petitioner in consequence of these instructions waited on Lord Hillsborough but his Lordship as well as your Petitioner being of opinion that the Gentlemen in Virginia had mistaken the Mode his Lordp. first recommended to Lord Bottetourt, by which the Kingdom of Ireland was supplied with Copper coinage, they thinking it to be sterling instead of Irish Currency it made it necessary to write a Letter to Lord Dunmore which was accordingly done and dated 2 December 1771...

"Your Petitioner in Consequence thereof received further instructions from Robert Carter Nicholas in June last, importing that himself and the Gentlemen of the Council had really mistaken Lord Hillsborough's mode relative to the Copper coinage and that they readily adopted his Lordship's plan for making sixty half-pence of the Avoirdupois ground of Copper to pass on payment as Virginia currency being equal to two English Shillings at the Par of Exchange; that they were desirous of making trial of the value of One Thousand Pounds sterling which by estimation will be about Five Tons of Copper to see how it will operate in Virginia.

"Your Petitioner on receipt of these additional instructions attended Lord Hillsborough several times and was told by his Lordship that he had the affair much at Heart, and would send for your Petitioner after he had asked leave of His Majesty and consulted Mr. Cadogan on the subject but as his Lordship soon after went out of Office, and nothing was done your Petitioner is obliged to make application to your Lordship's to give him such directions towards carrying this business in to execution as your Lordships shall think fit".

Newman numbering

1	—	A		
2	—	E		
2	—	F		
1	—	G		
2	—	F		
2	—	B	7	— D
2	—	C	8	— O
2	—	X	9	— H
2	—	N	10	
2	—			
2	—	E		
2	—	Q		
2	—	K		
2	—	IC		
2	—	M		
2	—	Y		
2	—	J		

17	20	17
----	----	----

Drannek Realty Company

319 NORTH FOURTH STREET

ST. LOUIS 2, MISSOURI

PHONE: MAIN 4080

7.

31 1/2

^{in all} First I tells left, ^{second} slightly higher than center line and very close to ~~center line~~ and end

8.

30 1/2

Second I tells, ^{slightly} near first I than third I ^{high}. Light center point

Always

~~second I~~ ^{slightly higher}

Vee line + touches base of I. Almost touches same leaf ends opposite end of I. base of A. third I parallel to base of I. Both periods high than center line

Vee line + base of leaf. Second I tells ^{slightly} right side of I. leaf ends opposite ~~right~~ right tip of left base of A. I parallel to horizontal divider, base just above center line.

Boyd bering

Reverses to same

3 22 23

2 21

8 20

12 14 40

9 25

13 29

24

33

11 26 27 28 36

10

4 6 15 32

1

38

5 30 31 34 35

7 37 39

41 (Normal)

Aloud to the same

2, 3, 21 1 23

8 12

25

14 40

9 24 25

13 29

33

11 26 27 28 36

10

4 6 15 32

1 ~~4~~

38 41

5 30 31 34 35

7 37 39

H B
I 2

E F G
10 33 25

H B
J K

S R 24 3
M N P Q

27
R S

2 B 41 ← Second line
X Y 2 ← Harmonic

New Variety

Rev has under V has ^{angular} ~~sharp~~ bend to vertical position.
H too low A tells right
and ends opposite center of I
long ends, space left by right base of A

Hand I slopes down to right relative to
horizontal divider 7 strings
Bounds above center

31 No period after GEORGES Second G = G O O G I I I
slightly ~~low~~ low. First I tells left. First ~~two~~ I I I I I tells left
much to X than to R
In III first I tells ~~right~~ sharply left and second I tells left.

Mehl sale 11/30/54 acquisitions

Lat 1075

V touches leaf and is low N almost touching arms. ^{second somewhat} ~~top of~~ 7, higher than ~~top of~~ 3. Leaf ends slightly right of center of I. Leaf ends opposite right top of left base of A. Periods higher than center I horizontal Period after date near top line Period after A higher than center 7 strings

Obv $3\frac{1}{2}$ No period First I in III tells left Period after X ^{higher than center and} very close to X and to curl

Lat 1076 Nopenob

30 O tells right First R is low E near R than X Top of second I in III near ^{top of} first I than ^{top of} third I

Rev V is low

Leaf ends opposite left side of upright of I Leaf ends close to & opposite left top of first base of deflection A Periods higher than center I horizontal 7 strings

③	32	28½	49	41½	Space between top of second and third I of III wide. Period after III higher than center.
⑫	29	31	50½	42	Space betw top of first & second I of III wide Period after III nearer I than R.
⑭		31½		43½	third ^{9th} I Thud I farther from second I than first I. Period nearer R than I. E in REX nearer X than R.
⑳	30½	31	50½	43	III almost perfectly cut.
⑨		30½		43	Top of Thud I of III farther from ^{top of} second I than first I. Period ^{slightly} nearer I than R. E in REX nearer R than X. ^{lumpy} ^{develops} ^{below bust}
⑩	29½			42½	O nearer E than R in GEORGIUS Period much closer to I than R.
③③	30			42	Base of first I in III slightly low. ^{third I of III as close to} as E is . ^{on REX} R ^{and} R of REX
①④	36	28	51½	43	First I distant from E. Base of first I in III slightly low. ^{E closer to X than R}
⑥	32	30	51	43	Baseline of III ^{unusually} near to right. Period between I and R nearer I.
⑤	33	28	50	42	Base of first I low. Top of first I in III distant from top of second I
⑬	35	28	51½	42½	Second I in III leans too far left. Center punch marks shows near curls.
⑦	31	31½	51	42	E high in GEORGIUS. first ^{and} O nearer E than R in GEORGIUS
③⑧	31			43	Thud I of III too low
①	29			42	Last period much lower than center.
④					

Red see my

Top of

char⁷

- 3 V is low. ^{Top of} 3 is high. Left base of A is high. Period slightly above center of letters. Leaf ends opposite left tip of I. Leaf ^{ends} opposite center of A. Third I slopes ~~down~~ slightly down to right ^{relative to} horizontal. Period slightly above center of letters.
2. Vis low. ~~Second I touches coat of arms and~~ Vis very close and second I touches coat of arms. N is low. Leaf ^{ends} opposite left tip of I. Leaf close to and ends opposite right tip of left base of A. Third I ~~parallel to~~ horizontal. Period higher than middle of letters.
- 8 strings in hand
- 12 V is low, ~~close to leaf and tilts right.~~ ^{Second} I touches coat of arms. Period after date resembles a dash. Leaf ends opposite left side of upright of I. Leaf close to and ends opposite center of narrow A. Third I slopes down to right ^{relative to} horizontal.
8. Vis low. G is large and curls up at the top. ^{Second} I touches coat of arms. Period at center of letters. Leaf ends opposite left side of upright of I. Leaf ends opposite left tip of right base of A. Third I slopes ^{slightly} up to right ~~relative to~~ horizontal.
9. V is low. First I ~~tilts too far to right.~~ Top of G curls up. Period slightly above center of letters. Period after date near top of ^{large} date. Leaf ends opposite center of I. Leaf ends opposite center of A. Third I slopes down to right ^{relative to} horizontal.
- 10 Vis low & close to leaf. Top of G curls up. Top of 7 higher than 3. Period slightly above center of letters. Leaf ends opposite point between center and right ~~side~~ side of upright of I. Leaf ends opposite center of narrow A. Third I horizontal.
- 24 V is low & touches leaf. G is too high and much nearer R than I. ^{middle} Second I double-cut. Period after date ~~between~~ center and top of numbers. Leaf ^{ends} opposite left side of upright of I. Leaf ends opposite left tip of right base of A. Third I is horizontal.
- 25 Vis low. R is high. G curls up at top. ~~Period~~ Periods near top ^{line of} letters. Period near top line of date. Leaf ends opposite center of I. Leaf ends opposite center of A. Third I slopes down to right ^{relative to} horizontal.
- 33 V touches leaf. N is low. Period ^{near top} ~~above~~ line of letters. Period ^{above center} ~~near top~~ line of date. Leaf ends opposite center of I. Leaf ends ^{close to a dash} opposite center of A. Third I is horizontal.

- 11 ~~11~~ Right top of V higher at right end. A tilts to right and right base is defective. Leaf ends opposite center of I. Leaf ends opposite center of left base of A. Third I is parallel to horizontal divider.
 8 strings in heap
- 13 ~~13~~ I ~~is~~ almost touches coat of arms. N is low and almost touches coat of arms. Leaf ends opposite left side of upright of I. Leaf close to and ends opposite right tip of left base of A. Third I is parallel to horizontal divider.
 8 strings in heap
5. ~~5~~ VIR widely spaced. ~~Second I~~ Second I close to coat of arms. Leaf ends opposite left upright of I. Leaf ends opposite center of A. Third I is parallel to horizontal divider.
 8 strings in heap
- 6 V touches and I is very close to coat of arms. A is ~~is~~ high. Leaf ends opposite ~~left~~ center of I. Leaf ends opposite left tip of right base of A. Third I is parallel to horizontal divider.
 8 strings in heap
- ~~1~~ touches and I is very close to coat of arms.
 8 strings in heap
7. V distant from I. Second I close to coat of arms. Period after date on top line of numbers. Leaf ends opposite ~~center~~ left tip of I. Leaf ends opposite center of A. Third I slopes down to right relative to horizontal divider.
 8 strings in heap
38. R G I are widely spaced.
 Period in line with top of letters.
 Leaf ends opposite ~~right tip of I~~ space to right of I.
 Leaf ends opposite left tip of right base of A.
 Third I is parallel to horizontal divider.
 8 strings in heap
- ~~1~~ 1 A 6 strings in heap
 small ~~is~~ in date. Period after date ~~close~~ as near V as 3.
 Leaf ends opposite midpoint between I and R.
 Leaf ends opposite ^{center of} left base of A.
 V is low I tilts right. Leaf ends opposite ~~right tip of I~~ right tip of I.
 Leaf ends opposite close to center of narrow A. Third I slopes down to right relative to horizontal divider.
 8 strings in heap
- 41 ~~41~~ Z
 8 strings in heap

John Norton realized he was probably not the best contact to use to obtain British approval for the Virginia copper coinage. The Virginia Gazette of May 12, 1775 carried his open letter of apology for paying a British tax on tea, exported to Virginia in which he said:

"I also farther declare, that so far from having any connexion with the Ministry, my person is even unknown to any of them, and that I never was in their presence except when I attended about the copper coinage for Virginia in which I was employed, instead of a better agent."

THE OFFICIAL RECORDS OF ROBERT DINWIDDIE
(Lt. Gov. of the Colony of Virginia 1751-58)

Collections of the Virginia Historical Society

New Series Vol. IV Richmond, 1884, p. 341.

Letter dated February 23, 1756 to the Lords of Trade proposing a poll Tax and a land tax for all the colonies.

"There is an Affair occurs to me th't will make some Difficulties in rais'g the above Taxes, w'ch is the great Scarcity of Silver and Gold. As Provis's of all kinds will be wanted, those Colonies th't cannot pay in Money may they not supply Provis's in lieu of Cash? and to be charg'd at the Curr't Price they are sold for? But th's I submit to Y'r Superior Judgem't, or if tho't proper th't the Money sh'd be coin'd at home for Pay'm't of all the officers, Civil and Military, to be sent annually to the different Colonies, th't the Money so coin'd may be with Inscriptions, as may be tho't proper, to distinguish it from American Curr'cy. This the French have practiced for many years. The Gov't may save 5 p. c't on the Coinage, and be at no more charge th'n at pres't in pay'g the Salaries, etc., at Home, and the Advantage the Colonies w'd reap is plain, by hav'g so much Money sent over to them annually, and qualifie them to pay the above Taxes in Cash, and in a few Years w'd put an end to all paper Curr'cy, so much complain'd of by the merch'ts at home and the subjects, * * *

Partial quotation of foregoing in Am. Jour.Num. (1885)
Vol. XIX, p. 92

CHAP. XII

AN ACT FOR THE BETTER SUPPORT OF THE
CONTINGENT CHARGES OF GOVERNMENT

(10th George III, Chap. XII,
passed December 20, 1769 at
Williamsburg, Virginia)

I. WHEREAS it hath been judged expedient ***
to direct an application to be made to his majesty
to permit copper money to be imported into this
colony, to the value of two thousand five hundred
pounds sterling, and pass for the greater convenience
of change in small payments: ***

II. And be it further enacted, by the authority
aforesaid, That if his majesty shall be graciously
pleased to permit copper money to be brought in, and
pass in this colony, the said treasurer shall, at the
public expence, cause so much of such copper to be
purchased in Great-Britain as at the rates, at which it
doth pass there, will amount to two thousand five
hundred pounds sterling, and to be imported into this
colony; and shall pay the same away at the British
rates to any persons having legal demands against
the treasury, in such proportions as is directed by
an act of assembly, made in the first year of the
reign of king George the second, intituled An act
for the better regulating and ascertaining the current
rates of silver coin with this dominion, and for
preventing the evil practice of cutting foreign gold
into pieces; or the said treasurer may exchange such

copper at the rates aforesaid for other money, with any person desiring such exchange, and such copper money shall thereafter be current, and pass in payment in this colony, according to the directions and limitations in the said last mentioned act. ***

CHAP. XVII.

AN ACT TO AMEND THE SEVERAL ACTS OF
ASSEMBLY RESPECTING THE CURRENCY
OF COPPER MONEY IN THIS COLONY.

(12th George III, Chap. XVII, passed
April 8, 1772 at Williamsburg, Virginia)

I. WHEREAS by an act of the general assembly, passed in the first year of the reign of his late majesty king George the second, intituled An act for the better regulating and ascertaining the current rates of silver coin within this dominion, and for preventing the evil practice of cutting foreign gold into pieces, it is, amongst other things, enacted, that if his majesty, his heirs, or successors, should think fit, at any time thereafter, to permit copper coin to be brought in and pass in this colony, the same should pass and be current at the like rates it doth pass in Great-Britain. And whereas by one other act of assembly, passed in the tenth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled An act for the better support of the contingent charges of government, it is, amongst other things, enacted that if his majesty should be graciously pleased to permit copper money to be brought in and pass in this colony, the treasurer should, at the public expence, cause so much of such copper to be purchased in Great-Britain, as at the rates at which it doth pass there would amount to two thousand five hundred pounds sterling. And whereas it is represented to this general assembly, that it will be more convenient for the purposes to which copper money is usually applied, to have the same coined into halfpenny pieces of the

value of so much current money of Virginia, instead of sterling money of Great-Britain, and that the value of one thousand pounds sterling, in such currency halfpence, will be sufficient to answer the present occasions of the colony: Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council, and Burgesses, of this present General Assembly, and it is hereby enacted, by the authority of the same, That so much of the last mentioned act as impowers the treasurer to import copper money, to the amount of two thousand five hundred pounds sterling, is hereby repealed.

II. And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That if his majesty should be graciously pleased to authorize the circulation of copper money in this colony, the treasurer for the time being shall, at the expence of the public, import so many halfpence of the value of the current money of Virginia as may be purchased for one thousand pounds sterling, exclusive of costs and charges, to be issued and exchanged, at the public treasury, for the purposes, and under the regulations, prescribed and directed by the said recited acts.

III. Provided always, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to restrain his majesty from regulating the currency of the said copper money within this colony, in such a manner as his majesty, by his royal proclamation, or by his royal instructions to his governor, or commander in chief of this colony, for the time being, shall, from time to time, judge proper and necessary.

"BY THE KING.--A PROCLAMATION

GEORGE R.

"Whereas, it hath been humbly represented to us on the part and behalf of our colony of Virginia that a currency of copper money within the same colony would be highly beneficial to our good subjects, the inhabitants thereof, for the more easy and convenient making of small payments; and whereas the Treasurer of our said colony, being thereunto authorized by an Act of our Governor, Council, and Assembly of said colony, passed in the tenth year of our reign, hath delivered to the master and worker of our mint, in our tower of London, a sufficient quantity of fine copper in bars, ⁿsealed, for the coinage of five tons of the pieces hereinafter mentioned, after making the just and usual allowance to the officers of our mint; and whereas our said master and worker of our mint hath, in pursuance of our warrant for that purpose issued, coined thereout five tons of pieces of copper coin, of such weight that sixty pieces thereof are equal to one pound weight avoirdupois, without erring either in excess or defect above one thirtieth part, and are of the value of two shillings and sixpence, according to the currency of money in our said province of Virginia; and each piece is stamped on one side with our effigies, with the inscription 'Georgius III. Rex.' and on the reverse with the Virginia Arms, with the St. George's Cross, leaving out the escutcheon of crowns,

except one crown at the top as on the Guinea, without crest, supporters, or motto, except the word 'Virginia' round the arms, with the date of the year; which are now ready to be exported to our said colony of Virginia. We have therefore, with the advice of our Privy Council, thought fit to issue this our Royal Proclamation: and we do accordingly hereby ordain, declare, and command, that the said pieces of copper money, so coined, stamped, and impressed, as aforesaid, shall be current and lawful Money of and in our said colony of Virginia, and of and within the districts and precincts of the same; and shall pass and be received therein after the rate following, that is to say, twenty-four of the said pieces shall pass and be received for the sum of one shilling, according to the currency of our said province of Virginia, and at and after such rate shall be computed, accepted and taken accordingly in all bargains, rates, payments, and other transactions of money. Provided always, and we do hereby further declare, that no person shall be obliged to take more than one shilling of such copper money in any one payment of any sum of money under twenty shillings, nor more than two shillings and six-pence thereof in any one payment of a larger sum of money than twenty shillings.

"Given at Court at St. James, the 16th day of November, 1774, in the fifteenth year of our reign.

"God save the King."

COPPER COINAGE FOR VIRGINIA

George R.

Whereas it has been represented unto us by the Petition of John Norton Merchant presented to the Commrs. of our Treasury that our Colony of Virginia did by Virtue of an Act of Assembly past in the 10th year of our Reign make application to Our Right Trusty and Right Wellbeloved Cousin & Councillour Wills Hill Earl of Hillsborough then one of Our Principal Secretaries of State that he would intercede with us for leave to have a Copper Currency in Our said Colony of Virginia And Whereas It has been represented unto us by the Commrs. of our Treasury aforesaid that the said John Norton has proposed to them to undertake the said Coinage and that his Proposal having been referred to you the Master of our Mint for your Consideration You have given your Opinion that the same is proper to be complied with Our Will & Pleasure is And We do hereby authorise and command you Charles Sloane Cadogan Master & Worker of Our Mint in Our Tower of London to receive into Our said Mint from the said John Norton or from such Persons as he shall contract with for that purpose fine Copper in Bars nealed and which when heated red hot will spread thin under the hammer without cracking and which Shall be of a due Size or Thickness to be prescribed by you and out of the same to coin Twenty Five Tons or such lesser Quantity as shall be necessary for our said Colony in Halfpence of such a bigness that sixty of them may make a Pound Weight Avoidrupois excepting such small errors as may happen in and by the unequal sizing of the Bars which errors you shall endeavour that they be not in Excess & Defect above the 30th Part of a Pound Weight and this not by Design but only by accident and if the said Copper Bars do not bear the Assay in Size & Fineness you shall not receive the same but return them back to be manu-

factured anew and the whole Quantity of Copper which shall be received by you in Bars from such Contractors as aforesaid shall be redelivered by you by weight either in Monies to such Persons as shall be duly authorized to receive the same or in the Scissel & Brocage of the said Bars to the said Contractors to be recast & wrought over again at their expence and you shall cause Our Effigies with the Inscription G E O R G I U S . III. R E X. to be stamped on one side of each Piece & the Virginia Arms on the Reverse with the St. George's Cross leaving out the Escutcheons & Crowns except one Crown at the Top as on the Guinea without Crest supporters & Motto except the word V I R G I N I A round the arms with the date of the year and when any Quantity of such Monies shall be coined the same shall be well mixed in a Heap & assayed by counting out sixty Pieces from several parts of the Heap & weighed every Parcel so counted out and you shall also cause the same to be assayed in Fineness by heating some Pieces of the Money Red Hot & Then battering them to see if they will spread thin under the Hammer without cracking and you shall bear & sustain all charges & waste in cutting nealing flatting scouring blanching barreling coining assaying weighing & delivering the same at Our Mint in Our Tower of London for Five Pence per Pound Weight avoirdupois exclusive of the twenty shillings per Ton to be paid to our Clerk of the Copper Coinage of our said Mint for overseeing the said coinage & keeping the accounts thereof which said Five pence per Pound Weight & 20s p Ton shall be paid quarterly And for the said allowance of 5 d. p £ Wt. & 20 s p Ton you are to indemnify & save us & this Kingdom from any Charge & Demands whatsoever in respect of this intended Coinage and the moneyers shall not pay vend or distribute any of the said new coined Monies before the same shall be duly assayed & delivered to you the Master or Worker and We do further appoint & order that all Receipts & Deliveries

of Copper in Bars or Scissel & all Deliveries of Moneys from the
Moneyers to you & from you to such Persons as shall be only
authorized to receive the same with the assays thereof shall be
entered in Books by the said Clerk who shall see all the assays
performed & the Bars & Money & Scissel weighed & one or more
Pieces taken out of every Parcel of Monies assayed to be kept
in a Box under his Key & the Key of you the Master & Worker in
order to be tried at such times before such Persons as the Comars
of our Treasury for the time being shall appoint And our further
Will and Pleasure is and We do hereby command & charge all the
officers of the Tower aforesaid That all Persons bringing in Copper
in Bars to the said Mint or coming thither for money or scissel
of Copper shall have free ingress egress & issue by the Gates
& thro' the same Tower & Franchises thereof inward & outward at
all times without any arresting disturbance letting or gainsaying
of the Chief Governor Constable or Lieut^t : or the Porter of any
other officer or Person whatsoever to be for any Manner of
Debt Matter or Cause whatsoever it be & without any thing given
to them or any other for to have such entry and We do further
command & require the Gravers Moneyers Smith & all others attending
on this service to do their Duty with Diligence & application &
to observe the Tasks and Directions given them by you the said
Master & Worker for coining our said Monies well & with Dispatch
and Whereas the Contractors are to deliver Bars so sized that
60 Halfpennys when cut out of the same shall make a Pound Weight
without erring either in Excess or Defect above 1/30th Part &
it will not be possible to draw the said Bars to so exact a Size
without cutting from time to time Halfpenny Blanks thereof and
weighing the same. Our further Will & Pleasure is that you do
deliver to the s^d Contractors one proper cutter they the said

Contractors giving proper security to return the same into Our Mint at the expiration of their Contract and for so doing this shall be as well to you as to all others concerned in this Coinage a sufficient Warrant. Given at our Court at St. James this 20th day of May 1773 in the 13th year of Our Reign.

To Chas. Sloane Cadogan)	By His Majestys Command
Master & Worker of Our Mint)	North. Geo. Onslow J. Dyson
within Our Tower of London.)	

(From Tome 52-62 pages 379-381)

(Public Records Office, Chancery Lane, London)



Virginia Historical Society

Lee House - 707 E. Franklin St.

Richmond 19

November 4, 1935

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Mo.

Annual Dues For

Entertaining - Lowelling, etc. \$1.00

Receipt sent only upon request, as your cancelled check is a receipt.

Henry Adams (Oregon Side) ~~Adams~~
of Boston 10/20/70 H/H/15

569 1774 Virginia Shading A fine impression

Oregon Sale Dec 6 1866

Eighty-four Collection

1003 In shabby case

\$1.50⁰⁰ lot by

Hirman

Wm

Peter Bleachman Sale June 15, 1902
18th sale of Thomas L. Elder

Lot 66 Virginia Shilling Proof
Wt 71 grains, Crosby knew of
3 specimens { Henry S. Adams
Chas. J. Bushnell
L. L. Parmelee

Sold for
\$505 to Henry Chapman.

Illustrated on plate

Jefferson L. W. Carmichael 1963
Paris 12/26/1786

"My 'Notes on Virginia', having
been hastily written, need
abundance of corrections."

Common Shallow

(Spec 1)

11. 10. 1904

↓

10. 10. 1904

Common Shallow

(Spec 2)

11. 10. 1904

↓

10. 10. 1904

↓

10. 10. 1904

(Spec 3)

11. 10. 1904

10. 10. 1904

(Spec 4) 11. 10. 1904

10. 10. 1904

Sept 1759

Proof of Circulation of Virginia halfpence

On Monies, Coins, Weights and Measures
by John Beale Bordley

Phila, 1781

The undermentioned copper coins weigh as follows:

	<u>A.D.</u>	<u>Gr.</u>
Virginia halfpenny	1773	120
U.S.	1783	145
etc		

This shows circulation of Va Halfpence in Pa.

THE PAPERS OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Sponsored by the American Philosophical Society and Yale University

LEONARD W. LABAREE, *Editor*
HELEN C. BOATFIELD, *Assistant Editor*
HELENE H. FINEMAN, *Assistant Editor*
JAMES H. HUTSON, *Assistant Editor*
CLAUDE A. LOPEZ, *Assistant Editor*

EDITORIAL OFFICE:
Yale University Library
1603 A Yale Station
New Haven, Connecticut

January 22, 1965

Mr. Donald P. Taxay
Chase Manhattan Bank Money Museum
Rockefeller Center
1254 Avenue of the Americas
New York City 10020

Dear Mr. Taxay:

I assume from your letter of January 19 that you are interested specifically in metallic coinage, not in paper currency, in which the colonies abounded long before the American Revolution.

A check of our files indicates only one reference by Franklin to metallic coinage prior to 1776. While he was in England as agent for the Pennsylvania Assembly he wrote a friend in Philadelphia, Samuel Rhoads, Jan. 5, 1774, referring to the Pennsylvania acts "of last winter," which had been sent to England but had not yet been considered by the officials there. Among those there was a paper-currency act which may have made some provision for having some copper coins struck in England for circulation in Pennsylvania. I have not checked this out.

In any case, Franklin added "Virginia has lately had a Quantity of Copper-Milljence struck at the Mint here for their Province. Inclosed I send you a Specimen of them." He is here obviously referring to the Virginia act of 1772: "An Act to amend the several acts of assembly respecting the currency of copper money in this province." I assume you know all about this act, but in case you do not, you will find the text printed in William W. Hening, Statutes at Large of Virginia, VIII, 534-6.

Although Franklin was a member of the Continental Congress in the summer of 1776, he does not seem to have had any special connection with the scheme for establishing a mint at that time. We do have a good many letters between Franklin and Bridgen and others in 1779 and later about the later schemes.

I assume from what you write that you are interested in all early American coinage. Have you been in touch with Mr. Norman Bryant, who is, I believe, the leading authority on and collector of early Connecticut coins? If not, you might wish to discuss that phase of your study with him. His home address is: 1 Old Orchard Road, North Haven, Conn. I doubt, however, whether he owns any early MS. documents relating to this topic, though he may.

Sincerely yours,



Leonard W. Labaree

Sep 1966 -
Main Lib

Wm + Mary College Quarterly Magazine
Vol 18, Apr 1910 p 219
No 4

Quoted Va Legation with Treasury Office
~~British~~ Notice that copper coin is ready
to delivery Feb 27, 1775. By Robert Carter Nicholas

Virginia Shilling

W E Woodward 10/6/48 #1487
Lightbody (Cogan Bob) #483

Burnett-Pennala #1461

Pennala 513

Brooksb #140

Woodward #66

Olson #1371

In the NUMISMA, edited by Ed. Frossard, Irvington, New York, Vol. 6, No. 3, May, 1882, it is stated concerning the Bushnell sale:

"Again we refer our readers to No. 247. The statement there made is as follows: 'One ~~XXX~~(Virginia shilling) in sale March 20, 1865, brought \$190 and this piece is worth that amount.' Now, as a matter of fact, one of these shillings, not long ago, went the round of collectors at \$110 and would gladly have been sold at a good profit for \$100; it was finally shipped to England, and as far as known is still unsold, and certainly not 3 but 10 or 12 of these, or more, are at present known."

Dr. Julius P. Allen, M.D. of Baltimore
has written in a survey
about 1848 and possibly 1849
and 1850 - I with his brother, Mark Allen

~~has written in a survey~~

~~about 1848 and possibly 1849~~

has written in a survey
about 1848 and possibly 1849
and 1850 - I with his brother, Mark Allen

The Statutes at Large of Virginia, edited by W. W. Hening,
New York, 1823, Volume 1, page 308, November, 1645 Session,
20th Charles 1st, Act XX:

THE Governor, Council and Burgesses of this present Grand Assembly having maturely weighed & considered how advantageous a quaine current would be to this collony, and the great wants and miseries which do daily happen vnto it by the sole dependency vpon tob'o. have at length resolved and enacted, and be it by the authoritie aforesaid enacted as the onely way to procure the said quaine and prevent the further miseries, That all peeces of eight in Spanish money be valued and taken in payment, att the rate of sixe shillings and all other Spanish silver quaines proportionably which shall be brought into the collony: And whereas it is conceived that the said quaine will not continue with vs vnless we have a leger quaine, Therefore, serious consideration had of the many wayes tending to that effect, It was at length generally allowed, That a quaine of copper would be the most beneficial to, and with most ease procured by the collony, And that after proclamation made by the Governour and Council that all person or persons within this collony whether merchants or others do desist or leave off tradeing for tob'o. vpon the penaltie and forfeiture of the thing so bought or sold, The one moyettie whereof shall be and come to the informer, and the other to the benefit of the state.

The Quaine to be erected after this manner.

10000 lb. of copper to be bought by the publique at the rate of 18d. per lb. which amounts to £750 sterl. which to be paid in tob'o. at the rate of 1d. 1-2d. per lb. 120000 of tob'o. which being collected per pole accounting 5000 persons in this collony it comes to 24 lb of tob'o. per pole every pound of copper to make 20s. and to allow for the mintage 12d. per pound soe there will remaine £9500 sterl. The mintage allowed and deducted. The stocke to be equallie divided amongst the adventurers to be quained in two pences, three pences, sixe pences and nine pences, And if it shall happen at anytime hereafter that the aforesaid quaine be called in and become not currant, Yet the republique shall make good the quantity of so much (vizt.) £.10000 to be levied per poll, And that it may be provided that this quaine may not be counterfeited and brought in, Beside the inflicting of capitall punishment vpon these who shall be found delinquents therein, That vpon every peece of coyne there be two rings, The one for the motto, The other to receive a new impression which shall be stampeted yearly with some newffigure, by one appointed for that purpose in each county, And that the hon'ble. Sir William Berkeley, Knt. Gov'r. shall have the disposall and placing of such and soe manie officers as shall be necessarily required for performing and finishing the aforesaid service, Onely Capt. John Upton is hereby confirmed Mint Master Generall: Wee reposing much confidence in his care, ability and trust for the performance of the said office.

The Assembly is prorogued untill the ffirst of March next, and then a full meeting to be had concerning the same.

The Statutes at Large of Virginia, edited by W. W. Hening, New York, 1823, Volume 1, page 308, November, 1645 Session, 20th Charles 1st, Act XX:

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The Assembly is prorogued untill the ffirst of March next, and then a full meeting to be had concerning the same.

John W. Haseltine Catalogue of 1/20/80
Lot 713

1223 Va $\frac{1}{2}$ d

Property of late Mr Cohen of Baltimore
- descended ~~to~~ to him from his father
He found 12 dies

7/5/84 Haseltine

2043 - 2063 incl All diff
variation of Va $\frac{1}{2}$ d

2 of 4 strings
11 of 7 strings
3 of 8 strings

1st Part & it will not be possible to draw the said Bars to
so exact a size without cutting from time to time
Halfpenny Blanks thereof and weighing the same
Our further Will & Pleasure is that you do deliver
to the s^d Contractors one proper Letter by the said
Contractors giving proper Security to return the same
into our Mint at the expiration of their Contract
And for so doing this shall be as well to you as
to all others concerned in this Coinage a sufficient
Warrant. Given at our Court at St. James this
20th day of May 1773 in the 13th year of our
Reign.

By His Majestys Command
North. Sec. or Secy. J. Byson.

To Cha^s Skene Adogan Esq^r
Master & Worker of our Mint
within our Tower of London.

George R.

John Robinson Esq^r
£4095 Special service
out of Virginia Debt
Repts.

Trusty and Wellbelov'd We greet You well. Our Will
and Pleasure is, And We do hereby Direct authorize & command
that out of such money as win or shall be in your hands now
or to arise by Our Revenues of Debt Rents in Our Colony of
Virginia, You do pay or cause to be paid unto Our Trusty and
Wellbelov'd John Robinson Esq^r or to his Assigns the sum of
£4095, Sterling money for Our Special service without Account
Imprest, or other charge to be set upon him for the same —
And this being first ordered with the said General of Our
Plantations together with the acquittance of the said John
Robinson, or of his Assigns shall be as well to you for payment
as to the said And^r General & all others concerned in passing
your Accounts for allowing the same thereupon a sufficient
Warrant. Given &c. this 23rd May 1773 In the 13th year
of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command.
North - Secy. or Secy. E. S. Fox

To the Representatives of John Roberts
Esq^r late Receiver General of Our Revenues
in Our Colony of Virginia —

Copper Coinage for
Virginia.

George R.
Whereas it has been represented unto us by the
Petition of John Norton Merchant presented to the
Comm^{ty} of Our Treasury that our Colony of Virginia
aid by virtue of an Act of Assembly past in the 10th
year of Our Reign make Application to Our Right
Trusty and Right Wellbeloved Cousin & Council
William Hill Earl of Shillsborough then one of Our
Principal Secretaries of State (that he would intercede
with us for leave to have a copper currency in our said
Colony of Virginia And Whereas it has been represented
unto us by the Comm^{ty} of Our Treasury aforesaid that
the said John Norton has proposed to them to undertake
the said Coinage and that his Proposal having been
referred to you the Master of our Mint in your
Consideration You have given your Opinion that
the same is proper to be complied with Our Will be
Pleasure is And We do hereby authorize and command
you Charles Sloane Esq^r Agent Master & Worker of our
Mint in Our Tower of London to receive into our
said Mint from the said John Norton or from such
Persons as he shall contract with for that purpose fine
Copper in Bars sealed and which when heated red hot
will spread thin under the Hammer without cracking
and which shall be of a due Size or Thickness to
be prescribed by you and out of the same to coin
Twenty Five Shs or such lesser Quantity as shall
be necessary for our said Colony in Halfpence of
such a Sigeness that six of them may make a
Pound Weight above the said excepting such small Errors
as may happen in and by the Unequal sizing of
the Bars which Errors you shall endeavour that
they be not in excess & defect above the 30th Part
of a Pound Weight And this not by design but only by
Accident And if the said Copper Bars do not bear the
assay in Size & Fineness you shall not receive the
same but return them back to be manufactured anew
And the whole Quantity of Copper which shall be
received by you in Bars from such Contractors as
aforesaid shall be redelivered by you by weight either
in Monies to such Persons as shall be duly authorized
to receive the same or in the Sifted & Broage of
the said Bars to the said Contractors to be recast &
brought over again at their Expence And you shall
cause Our Effigies with the Inscription GEORGIUS
III. REX to be stamped on one side of each Piece &
the Virginia Arms on the Reverse with the S^t. Georges
Cross leaving out the Law Scales & Crown except
one Crown at the Top as on the Guinea without Crest
Supporters & Motto except the Word VIRGINIA round
the Arms with the date of the Year And When any
Quantity of such Monies shall be coined the same
shall be well mixed in a Heap & assayed by counting
out sixty Pieces from several parts of the Heap &
weighed every Parcel is counted out and you shall also
cause the same to be assayed in Fineness by heating some

Pieces of the Money Red Hot, & then battering them to see if they
will spread thin under the Hammer without cracking
and you shall bear & sustain all Charges & Waste in
cutting, sealing, flating, scouring, blanching, barreling
coming, staying, weighing & delivering the same
at our Mill in our Tower of London for Six Pence
per Pound Weight Above du pois exclusive of the twenty
Shillings per Ton to be paid to our Clerk of the Copper
Mint of our said Mint for awarding the said
Coinage & keeping the Accounts thereof which said
Sixpence per Pound Weight & 20. s. Ton shall be
paid quarterly And for the said Allowance of 5. s. &
10. s. Ton you are to indemnify & save us &
this Kingdom from any Charge & Demands
whatsoever in respect of this intended Coinage And
the moneyers shall not pay vend or distribute any
of the said new coined Monies before the same shall
be duly assayed & delivered to you the Master or
Worker And We do farther appoint & order that
all Receipts & Deliveries of Copper in Bars or Siverel &
all Deliveries of Money from the Moneyers to you
from you to such Persons as shall be duly authorized
to receive the same with the assays thereof shall
be entered in Books by the said Clerk who shall
see all the assays performed & the Bars & Money
assayed weighed & one or more Pieces taken out of
each Parcel of Monies assayed to be kept in a Box under
his key & the key of you the Master or Worker in order
to be tried at such times before such Persons as the
Comptroller of our Treasury for the time being shall appoint
And our further Will and Pleasure is And We do
hereby command & charge all the Officers of the
Tower aforesaid that all Persons bringing in
in Bars to the said Mint or coming thither for Money
or Siverel of Copper shall have free Ingress Egress &
Issue by the Gates & thro' the same Tower & Tranchises
the roof inward & outward at all times without any
annoying disturbance letting or gainsaying of the
Chief Governor Constable or Clerk or the Porter or
any other Officer or Person whatsoever to be for any
Manner of Debt Matter or Cause whatsoever it be
& without any Thing given to them or any other
for to have our Entry And We do farther command
& require the Moneyers Moneyers Smith & all
others attending on this service to do their Duty
with Diligence & application & to observe the Orders
and Directions given them by you the said Master &
Worker for coining our said Monies well &
with Dispatch And Whereas the Contractors are
to deliver Bars so sized that 60 Haepennyweights
cut out of the same shall make a Pound Weight
without erring either in excess or Defect above

Wednesday. the 22nd of November. 10 Geo. III. 1769.

M^R *Eyre* reported from the Committee, to whom the Bill to dock the Intail of certain Lands whereof *Thomas Fisher*, jun. is seized, and for settling certain Slaves of greater Value, to the same Uses, was committed, that the Committee had examined the Allegations of the Bill, and found them to be true; and that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made several Amendments thereunto, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the Report in his Place, and afterwards delivered the Bill, with the Amendments, in at the Clerk's Table: Where the said Amendments were once read throughout, and then a second Time, one by one; and, upon the Question severally put thereupon, were agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That the Bill, with the Amendments, be ingrossed.

M^r Charles Carter, of *King George*, reported from the Committee, to whom the Bill to confirm to *George Marshall* the Fee Simple Estate in certain Lands purchased by him of the Vestry of *Hanover*, in the County of *King George*, was committed, that the Committee had examined the Allegations of the Bill, and found them to be true; and that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made several Amendments thereunto, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the Report in his Place, and afterwards delivered the Bill, with the Amendments, in at the Clerk's Table: Where the said Amendments were once read throughout, and then a second Time, one by one; and, upon the Question severally put thereupon, were agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That the Bill, with the Amendments, be ingrossed.

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to the Governor, that he will be pleased to give Directions to the proper Officer to lay before this House Copies of the Records and Proceedings in the Suits now depending against the Securities of the late Treasurer.

Ordered, That the said Address be presented to his Excellency by *M^r Henry* and *M^r Eyre*.

M^r Bland reported, from the Committee, to whom the Bill for continuing the Act, intituled, *An Act for appointing a Treasurer*, was committed, that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made an Amendment thereunto, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the Report in his Place, and afterwards delivered the Bill, with the Amendment, in at the Clerk's Table: Where the said Amendment was twice read; and, upon the Question put thereupon, was agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That the Bill, with the Amendment, be ingrossed.

M^r Starke reported, from the Committee, to whom the Bill to repeal the several Acts of Assembly, prohibiting the tending of Tobacco-Seconds, Slips, or Suckers, was committed, that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made several Amendments thereunto, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the Report in his Place, and afterwards delivered the Bill, with the Amendments, in at the Clerk's Table: Where the said Amendments were once read throughout, and then a second Time, one by one; and, upon the Question severally put thereupon, were agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That the Bill, with the Amendments, be ingrossed.

M^r Bland presented to the House, according to Order, a Bill to repeal an Act of the General Assembly, exempting the Inhabitants of *Mecklenburg* County from the Payment of Ferriage, on certain Days: And the same was received, and read the first Time.

Resolved, That the Bill be read a second Time.

M^r Harrison reported to the House, that their Address of Monday last (that his Excellency the Governor would use his kind Offices with his Majesty to issue his Royal Proclamation for permitting Copper Money to be brought in, and pass in this Colony) had

had been presented to his Excellency; and that he had directed him to acquaint the House, that he would write to *England* by the first Opportunity, and use all his Interest to obtain what the House desired.

A *Petition* of *Philip Johnson*, Gentleman, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that under the Last Will and Testament of *Thomas Bray*, Gentleman, deceased, and a decree of the General Court, and several Conveyances executed pursuant thereto, the Petitioner is seized, for the Term of his natural Life, of and in a Dwelling-House, and Three Hundred and Twelve Acres of Land, adjoining the City of *Williamsburg*, of a Moiety of four Lots or half Acres of Land, lying in the said City, and of a Tract of Land called *Tutty's Neck*, lying in the County of *James City*, and containing Six Hundred Acres, together with several Slaves; of which Lands and Slaves, charged with the Payment of Five Hundred Pounds to the Petitioner's Daughter *Elizabeth*, he hath Power to dispose to and among his younger Children by his late Wife *Elizabeth*, the Daughter of the said *Thomas Bray*; and that having six of such younger Children, some of whom will soon have Occasion of some Provision, if the Petitioner should be obliged to make a Partition of the said Lands and Lots among them, the Whole would be rendered by such minute Divisions of much less Value than it now is, and it would be for their Interest, as well as his, that the said Lands and Lots should be sold, and the Money placed in the Hands of Trustees, who may, in the first Place, pay the said Five Hundred Pounds to the Daughter *Elizabeth*, when payable, and the Interest of the Surplus to the Petitioner's Trustees, during his Life, and the Principal, at his Death, to his younger Children, as he shall appoint, pursuant to his Power aforesaid; and therefore praying that an Act may pass for that Purpose, under such Regulations as to the House shall seem proper.

Ordered, That Leave be given to bring in a Bill pursuant to the Prayer of the said Petition; and that Mr *Edmund Pendleton* and Mr *Treasurer* do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr *Edmund Pendleton* presented to the House, according to Order, a Bill to empower the Executors of the Will of *Charles Carter*, Esq; to sell Part of his Lands, for the Payment of his Debts and Legacies: And the same was received, and read the first Time.

Resolved, That the Bill be read a second Time.

Mr *Treasurer* presented to the House, according to Order, a Bill to empower the Vestry of *Saint Mark's* Parish, in the County of *Culpeper*, to sell the Glebe of the said Parish, and lay out the Money in purchasing a more convenient Glebe: And the same was received, and read the first Time.

Resolved, That the Bill be read a second Time.

Mr *Treasurer* presented to the House, according to Order, a Bill to empower the Vestry of *Meherrin* Parish, in the County of *Brunswick*, to sell the Glebe of the said Parish, and lay out the Money in purchasing a more convenient Glebe: And the same was received, and read the first Time.

Resolved, That the Bill be read a second Time.

Mr *Treasurer* presented to the House, according to Order, a Bill to divide the Parish of *Hamilton*, in the Counties of *Fauquier* and *Prince William*; And the same was received, and read the first Time.

Resolved, That the Bill be read a second Time.

Mr *Bland* reported, from the Committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the Committee had had under their Consideration several Petitions to them referred, and had come to several Resolutions thereupon; which he read in his Place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's Table: Where the same were read, and are as followeth, *viz.*

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this Committee, that the Petition of divers Inhabitants of the County of *Cumberland*, praying that the said County may be divided by a Line to be run from *Mosby's Ferry*, on *James River*, to the Mouth of *Swan's Creek*, on *Appomattox River*, be rejected.

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this Committee, that the Petition of divers Inhabitants of the said County of *Cumberland*, in Opposition thereto, is reasonable.

Resolved

Monday 27 Jan 1851

Dear Sir,

I have this morning perused your
Letter by Lloyd's Post, and in writing to you I feel
long to express to you my intention, to visit from
the office, how soon I can, to see that you
should be enabled to work part of it as desired
expressed. I feel that it is your duty
to have lately upon the subject of the paper money,
advising that you are especially, very cheerfully open
to adopt Lord Ashburton's proposals in every
part as well as that having any half power
be best at once to the pound then to pay it off
it would be advisable to make the first experi-
ment with no more than £1000000 value each
series of notes. Then only an opportunity of passing
if consulting with the Speaker, we are bestowing
to you the good grace as it seems to be
doubtful & I dare say the rest of the gentle-
men will concur in opinion, so that it may be
struck out. We highly approve either of the design
for the back money, but if we should prefer the
which has the same as the same, moving up the
inner edge, as we think it fills up better & makes
the figure more complete. I am much obliged both
to you & Mr. Howard for your kind presents, I long
to see them, as I shall take the greatest pleasure
in looking at any thing, that has even a palladium

— I regret when attending in accordance
with the order of the Court, the attendance of
the Judge of the Court is in favour of the
same. I have of this being the case, I have
been a few of my own by myself, he declines
and my name to James Brown, as the only person
of the Court, and not by the Court.
The Court of Directors are both very well.
Thank you I hope for many more. I hope to
write you again, but I am not yet at all
well, I believe in an early recovery,
I am,
Yours,
Wm. L. Nichols

Wm. L. Nichols
[ENC. 2]

[illegible]

Dear Sir,

Williamsburg 26th Dec^r 1769

I have before advised you of my Draft for
of Cap^t Robert Neche for £100 I have since drawn on you
to Mr^r Emm^t Jones for £10 which you will be pleased to have
Send you enclosed Mr^r Nelson's Bill on Mr^r Cony for £200
which you will be pleased to place to the Credit of my private
Account. Likewise send you sundry Bills amounting
as I did to £722.4.0 on Acc^t of the Treasury. Then draw
on you for £200 to Mr^r Wm^m Lee & £100 to Mr^r Banister
I have likewise sent Mr^r Montague an Order for £50
payable the 25th of March next, when his Salary becomes
due; which I have last Intimated to be charged to my
Account, as Treasurer; the rest of the Money laid down in
Hands I should perhaps, have Occasion to draw for
till the 1st of April or Beginning of May, but if any
Occasion should oblige me to do it sooner, I will advise
you. I had almost forgot to mention a small Bill I gave
Mr^r Carter a few Days since for £6.14.8, which is likewise
to be charged to the Treasury Account.

Our Countrymen are desirous of introducing
Copper Money amongst us & in the last Assembly advising
the Govern^r not to intercede with His Majesty, to allow it
to be current. So soon as the King's Proclamation ap-
pears for that Purpose, I am directed to impress as many
half Pence as £2500 will purchase; but as I am forgetting

a stranger to a Thing of the sort, I should be glad of your
advice, in the mean Time, how it is to be procured upon the
best Terms. Your J. H. N. has been up the Country for
some Time, the last Time I heard from him he was very
well. Wishing you & yours a long & untroubled train
of happy Years, I remain, Gentlemen, very affectio-
nately

Y^r much obliged Subscriber.

Robt. C. Nicholas.

I may let me have both my Accounts current twice
a year, that I may keep every Thing closely & distinctly.
I have rec^d. of several late Letters with News Papers, for
which I thank you; but am there no political Semi-
pablicⁿ. What Dr. Blackstone publishes his 5th & 6th
sequent Volumes, you'd be pleased to send them
to me.

Friday, the 25th of May. 10 Geo. III. 1770.

A Claim of *Matthew Anderson* for his Pay, as a Serjeant in the *Virginia Regiment*, in the Year 1759, was presented to the House, and read.

Ordered, That the said Claim be referred to the Committee of Public Claims; and that they do examine the Matter thereof, and report the same, with their Opinion thereupon, to the House.

M^r *Richard Henry Lee* presented to the House, according to Order, a Bill to vest certain Lands, whereof *Bernard Moore*, Esq; is seized in Fee Tail, in Trustees to be sold, and the Money laid out in the Purchase of other Lands and Slaves, to be settled to the same Uses; and the same was received and read the first Time.

Resolved, That the Bill be read a second Time.

Ordered, That Leave be given to bring in a Bill, for the more speedy Administration of Justice in this Colony; and that M^r *Richard Henry Lee*, M^r *Archibald Cary*, M^r *Bland*, M^r *Riddick*, M^r *Edmund Pendleton*, M^r *Treasurer*, M^r *Blair*, M^r *Mercer*, M^r *Henry*, M^r *Jones*, M^r *Carrington*, and M^r *Richard Baker*, do prepare and bring in the same.

M^r *Edmund Pendleton* presented to the House, according to Order, a Bill to vest certain intailed Lands, whereof *Charles Lewis*, Gentleman, is seized, in *John Lewis*, Gentleman, in Fee Simple, and settle other Lands to the same Uses; and the same was received, and read the first Time.

Resolved, That the Bill be read a second Time.

M^r *Eyre* presented to the House, according to Order, a Bill to vest certain intailed Lands and Slaves therein mentioned, in *Nathaniel Littleton Savage*, Gentleman, in Fee Simple, and to settle other Lands, in Lieu thereof; and the same was received, and read the first Time.

Resolved, That the Bill be read a second Time.

M^r *Bland* presented to the House, from the Committee of Correspondence, according to Order, another Letter to the said Committee from the Agent for this Colony, since the 21st Day of December last.

And the said Letter was read.

Ordered, That the said Letter do lie upon the Table, to be perused by the Members of the House.

M^r *Treasurer* reported from the Committee appointed, upon Tuesday last, to draw up an Address to be presented to the Governor, that the Committee had drawn up an Address accordingly, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the same in his Place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's Table; where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz.

My Lord,

We his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Burgesses of Virginia, beg Leave to present to your Excellency our sincere Thanks for the early Attention you have been pleased to give our former Addresses and Memorial respecting the Extension of our Boundary to the Westward, the Importation of Salt from foreign European Ports, and the future Currency of Copper Coin within this Colony.

His Majesty's great Goodness in so immediately referring the humble Petitions of his dutiful Subjects to his Board of Trade and Plantations cannot but afford us the highest Satisfaction, and we acknowledge with Pleasure the great Candor of his Majesty's principal Secretary of State for this Department in having the Consideration of the several Matters, mentioned in your Lordship's Message, postponed, till the Agent for this Colony should receive proper Instructions from us; but, my Lord, having already through your Excellency, to us the most agreeable Channel of conveying to the Throne our humble Requests, submitted to his Majesty's Wisdom our Reasons for desiring a more extended Boundary, we have nothing farther to add on that head, except that, if the Truth of any of the Facts contained in our humble Memorial should be doubted, we are persuaded it may be established by unquestionable Proofs.

The

The Foundation of our Wishes respecting the free Importation of Salt we trust is also fully explained and understood, and, as to the Copper Money, which we desire to have circulating amongst us, our humble Request is that it may be current here as in Great Britain, allowing for the Difference between Sterling Money and the Currency of this Colony at the Rate of Twenty-five per Cent.

It only therefore remains for us to entreat your Lordship, in whom we have abundant Reason to repose the greatest Confidence, to use your farther good Offices in endeavoring to procure Success to the earnest Desires of this House in these several important Articles.

The said Address being read a second Time;

Resolved, That the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Address, to be presented to the Governor.

Ordered, That the said Address be presented to his Excellency by the whole House.

Ordered, That the Gentlemen who drew up the said Address, do wait upon the Governor to know his Pleasure, when this House shall attend his Excellency, to present their Address.

The Order of the Day being read;

Resolved, That this House will, upon Monday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to take into Consideration the Governor's Message, and the Letters and Papers, relative to Indian Affairs, therein mentioned.

Ordered, That Leave be given to bring in a Bill to explain an Act of this present Session of Assembly, intituled *An Act to divide the Parish of Hamilton, in the Counties of Fauquier and Prince William*; and that M^r Marshall do prepare and bring in the same.

A Petition of Andrew Estave was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the Petitioner, from his long Residence in France, hath attained a perfect Knowledge of the Culture of Vines, and the most approved Method of making Wine; that having lived in this Colony about two Years, he hath, during that Time, made it his particular Study to be acquainted with the Nature of the Soil, and Cultivation of the wild Grape, which grows spontaneously through this Country, and is both larger and better tasted than the wild Grape in France, and will, properly managed, produce very fine Wine; but from the unsuccessful Attempts made here before by unskilful People, such a Project might perhaps meet with Difficulties, not easily to be removed, without the Assistance of the Legislature; and therefore praying this House to allot him One Hundred Acres of Land, in the Neighbourhood of the City of Williamsburg, with an House thereon for him to live in, and three Negro Men to assist him, which he would hold on the following Terms, to wit; if he should not make good merchantable Wine in four Years from the seating and planting the Vineyard, that he should pay the Rent of the Land and Hire of the Slaves for that Term, but if he should succeed to the Satisfaction of the Public, and this House, that then the Land and Slaves aforesaid should be and remain his Property, as an Encouragement, for his Discovery.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Committee of Trade; and that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their Opinion thereupon, to the House.

Ordered, That Leave be given to bring in a Bill, for establishing a Town at Rocky Ridge, in the County of Chesterfield, and for adding certain Lots to the Town of Richmond, in the County of Henrico; and that M^r Archibald Cary, M^r Adams, M^r Richard Randolph, and M^r Trent, do prepare and bring in the same.

M^r Mercer reported from the Committee, to whom the Bill to repeal the Act for increasing the Salary of the Minister of the Parish of Frederick, in the County of Frederick, was committed, that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made several Amendments thereunto, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the report in his Place, and afterwards delivered the Bill, with the Amendments, in at the Clerk's Table; where the Amendments were once read throughout, and then

a

Virginia 6th April 1775

Dear Sir

My Lord Treasurer, our Speaker, were Days ago, and before the House of Burgesses the Lord of Hillsborough's Letter on the Subject of Copper Money; the House of Burgesses have accepted their obligation to the Noble Earl for his kind Attention to their Affairs, to this Request, & have agreed to adopt the same. It has been proposed to propose in every parish, to make the new currency half pence coin at the ^{Rate of} 6 to the pound and the pence will suit best, & that £1000 st^{rs}, exclusive of Costs & charges, will be enough to make the first Experiment with. I must therefore beg the favour of you to procure this Sum of Copper Money, to consist wholly of half pence, & send it over, properly insured, to one or the Treasurer for the Town of New York by the next first Opportunity. The Mistake in your former Letter arose entirely from a Misapprehension of Lord Hillsborough's Letter & the Papers accompanying it; The President & Council, as well as our Speaker & myself understood that the 52 half Pence to the Pound mentioned in the King's Warrant to the Mint, was of Sterling Value & not Irish Currency, as we now find was intended. I am with much Respect, Sir,

Y^{rs} mo. ob^d Serv^t

Ro. C. Nicholas

certain Lands whereof John Hancock is seised, and for settling other Lands and Slaves, in Lieu thereof.

Ordered, That Mr Henry Lee do carry the Bill to the Council, and desire their Concurrence.

An engrossed Bill to dock the Intail of certain Lands whereof James Blackwell, the younger, is seised, and for other Purposes therein mentioned, was read the third Time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass; and that the Title be, *An Act to dock the Intail of certain Lands whereof James Blackwell, the younger, is seised, and for other Purposes therein mentioned.*

Ordered, That Mr Treasurer do carry the Bill to the Council, and desire their Concurrence.

And then the House adjourned till Tomorrow Morning, eleven of the Clock.

Tuesday, the 31st of March, 12 George III. 1772.

120 **A** Bill to appoint Commissioners to view a Place proposed for a Road through the South Mountain was read a second Time.

Ordered, That the Bill be engrossed.

The Order of the Day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of the Letter from the Earl of Hillsborough to the Governor upon the Subject of a Copper Coinage;

Ordered, That the Extracts of Letters which have passed between Mr Treasurer, and Mr John Norton, of London, Merchant, upon the same Subject, and which were this Day laid before the House by Mr Treasurer, be referred to the said Committee.

Then the House resolved itself into the said Committee.

Mr Speaker left the Chair.

Mr Bland took the Chair of the Committee.

Mr Speaker resumed the Chair.

Mr Bland reported from the Committee, that they had come to several Resolutions, which they had directed him to report, when the House will please to receive the same.

Ordered, That the Report be now received.

Mr Bland accordingly reported the Resolutions, which the Committee had directed him to report to the House; which he read in his Place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's Table; where the same were read, and are as followeth, *viz.*

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this Committee, that an humble Address be presented to his Excellency the Governor, returning him the Thanks of the House for communicating the Earl of Hillsborough's Letter on the Subject of Copper Money; expressing the Satisfaction we have received, on finding the Proposal, formerly made, for the Introduction of such Coin into this Colony, is likely to be carried into Execution, and the Obligations we are under to his Majesty's Minister for giving such earnest Attention to the Views of the Colony in this Respect; assuring his Lordship that we entirely approve the Scheme, which the Earl of Hillsborough hath been pleased to recommend, and that we wish to adopt it, in every Part.

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this Committee, that so much of the several Acts of Assembly, made in the first Year of the Reign of his late Majesty, and in the tenth Year of the Reign of his present Majesty, as respects Copper Coin, ought to be amended, and adapted to the Terms now proposed, for issuing and circulating Copper Money in this Colony.

The said Resolutions, being severally read a second Time, were, upon the Question severally put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That Mr Treasurer and Mr John Page do wait upon his Excellency with the first Resolution.

Ordered

(M^o 2.)
Earl of Dunmore

Whitehall, 9th June 1771.

177.

My Lord,

I think fit to acquaint Your Lordship that I have, within these few days received three Letters N^os 15, 16 & 17 from M^t President Nelson. In these Letters M^t Nelson repeats the Wishes of the Colony concerning the Circulation of Copper Coin, represents the Expediency of having some Instructions concerning the Jurisdiction of the General Court in Ecclesiastical Causes, & prays some Determination upon a Memorial of the Council recommending that M^r Blair may have a Pension in Consideration of his great Age and long Services.

N^o 41

My last Dispatch to M^t Nelson a Copy of which I inclose contains such Observations as have occurred to me upon the two first of these Subjects; but I am not able, at present, to say what will be determined with regard to M^r Blair's Pension, to the granting of which there are such Difficulties & Objections as induce me to think will prevent its taking Effect.

I am &c. Hillsborough

W. A. J.

Whitehall 11th Feb. 1774.

W. President. Nelson.

Sir

Since my Letter to you of the 2.^d of Jan^r last, your Letters N. 3 & 4, which were then missing, have been received & laid before the King, as also your Dispatches N. 8, 9 & 10, and a separate Letter of the 19.th Dec^r, but I have not yet received any Letter numbered 7.

The Request of the Colony for a ^{Copper} Circulation of British Coin will still want some farther Explanation before any Resolution can be taken upon it.

The inclosed Papers will inform you of the Method which has been pursued for some Years for supplying the Kingdom of Ireland with Copper Coinage, and which has given Satisfaction & been of great Service to the Inhabitants of that Country.

It may not be improper to communicate them to the Council & I shall be very glad if they may suggest any Proposition that may have the effect to produce what seems so much wished for by His Majesty's Subjects in Virginia.

have been forfeited by the imprudence of a man ⁴¹⁸ for
whom they became securities for his good behaviour
also a letter and proceeding of the General Court
sent to therein, from a Gentleman who is the
representative of the County where two other
persons live whom he applies for. I must beg
your Lordship's intercession in both cases, the
parties being utterly unable to pay these several
penalties, without the ruin of their numerous
families, and hope through your Lordship's
mercy to be authorised to relieve these poor
people according to the prayer of the said
Petition and letter.

I am

My Lord

Your Lordship's

most obedient

humble servant.

JMM:NB

As I have laid before the Assembly your Lordship's
letter relative to a bill on coinage and as soon as they
come to any resolution upon it, I will communicate
it to your Lordship. Y

which gave us room to suppose that the Proposition
might be taken in two ways: The first, that
52 Halffpence being coined out of Copper
equal to the value of two English Shillings, each
Halffpenny should still pass at 25 Cent. more
than an English Halffpenny does in England,
although only 40 English Halffpence were
coined out of the same Quantity of Copper.
But we could scarcely suppose this to be the
Intention, as it would be a manifest Fraud.
The other Proposition is not attended with any
Fraud, and, as we apprehend, is this, that the
Change of two English Shillings shall be 52
Halffpence instead of 40. This might certainly
be done, but it appears to me that the gentlemen
had wisely adapted the Idea of the Irish Copper
Coinage without considering the great Difference
in the value of the English Shilling and other English Coins
as now current in that Country; for, as the English
Shilling there is reckoned 13 Pence, 20
Halffpence divide it into great Rates & make
the Change most easy and convenient, and
therefore they have chose to coin the whole
Pound of Copper into 52 Halffpence equal to
two English Shillings. Now this may be
with great Facility adapted to the Case of
Virginia, for the two English Shillings rep-
for

